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WARSAW PACT MILITARY EXERCISES CONCLUDED

Termed Successful

AU140757 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 11 Feb 84 p 20

[Text] The joint winter military exercise of the Czechoslovak People's Army, the Soviet Army, and the Hungarian People's Army continued on 10 February 1984. The task, this time too, was to drive back the supposed enemy's attack. In order to intensify the counterattack of the main forces, airborne units were deployed as well. The maneuvers of motorized artillery and armored units developed successfully in an area of forests and mountains despite hindering snowstorms. The Hungarian units fulfilled their tasks successfully, and our armored companies gave an excellent account of themselves on the difficult terrain.

Andropov Mourned; Dzur Speaks

AU141349 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 12 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] Soviet, Czechoslovak, and Hungarian soldiers paid respect to the memory of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, with 1 minute of silence while standing at attention at the military parade held by the units taking part in the winter military exercises of the Czechoslovak People's Army, the Soviet Army, and the Hungarian People's Army in the CSSR on 11 February 1984. Army General Martin Dzur, Czechoslovak minister of national defense, took part and spoke at the parade.

He stressed, among other things, that the joint military exercise showed the high level of political firmness, professional training, and discipline of the soldiers of the participating units and contributed to the improvement of directional and leading abilities of the commanders and staff under difficult terrain conditions. In the exercise, the troops proved their internationalist unity and their readiness to defend the achievements of socialism.

The military parade ended with singing of the "Internationale" and a parade of the troops.

This marked the end of the joint military exercise of the troops of the Czechoslovak People's Army, the Soviet Army, and the Hungarian People's Army held in the CSSR, in the area of Podebrady, Liberec, Karlovy Vary, and Plzen. The goals that had been set were achieved, and the participating troops have returned to their garrisons.

ATHENS MEETING ON NON-NUCLEAR BALKANS CONTINUES

Bulgarian Opens First Session

AU151543 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 14 Feb 84 p 5

[Article by Ivanka Khlebarova, Athens correspondent: "Expression of Common Desire for Cooperation"]

[Text] Athens, 13 Feb -- The second stage of the meeting of government experts from Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Turkey, and Yugoslavia opened at the Zappion Palace in Athens today.

At 1100 local time Karolos Papoulias, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Greece, hoisted the flags of the five Balkan countries in front of the building where the meeting was opened. He stressed the common desire of these countries to work for the establishment of an atmosphere of mutual confidence, security, and good-neighborly relations. He pointed out that the questions of cooperation among the five aforementioned states are particularly focused on the problem of transforming the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone.

Today's first session of the meeting was chaired by Ambassador Rayko Nikolov, leader of the Bulgarian delegation. The representatives of the respective delegations took the floor on item one of the agenda. This first item encompasses a review of cooperation among Balkan countries in all areas.

In his statement Rayko Nikolov reportedly stressed that the cooperation among Balkan countries has developed and expanded in recent years in the spirit of the principles of peaceful coexistence. It is a fact that there is considerable progress in the development of relations among Balkan countries today. This development of relations is proceeding in various sectors -- such as energy, prospecting, and the most efficient utilization of high quality solid fuels, transportation, veterianry practice, environmental protection, and tourism. Cooperation on a multilateral basis in the cultural sphere is developing in the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act, as well.

Under the present circumstances of a complicated international situation, aggravated through the fault of the forces of imperialism and, above all, thanks to the adventurous U.S. policy, the guarantee of the security of all Balkan states demands the removal of nuclear weapons from our area. It was unmistakably expressed during the meeting that the first, most important, and most urgent task of cooperation in the political sector is the achievement of a joint basic agreement on the transformation of the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear weapons.

The interest of the public, not only in the Balkans but throughout Europe, in the establishment of nuclear-free zones is tremendous. This means a gradual elimination of the threat of thermonuclear war all over the European continent. This accounts for the interest of the public in the present Athens meeting, at which the question of establishing a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans is being treated as a priority issue above all other questions. At the same time the representatives of the five Balkan countries have reportedly pointed out in their statements that the full utilization of the advantages of geographical proximity is likely to contribute to the further expansion of cooperation.

The meeting continues.

More on Nikolov's Speech

AU151934 Sofia BTA in English 1835 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Athens, February 15 (BTA corr B. Borisov) -- The stockpiling of nuclear and other weapons, the existence of foreign troops and bases, the groping into the past in order to find out facts which oppose one against the other the Balkan countries serve not to the interests of the Balkan countries but to foreign interests. These words by Mr Todor Zhivkov give the essence of the statement made by the leader of the Bulgarian delegation, Ambassador Mr Rayko Nikolov, at the meeting of the experts in Athens.

The Bulgarian representative has stressed the necessity of making constant efforts for creating an ever more favorable political climate, for strengthening the trust and for extending the mutually advantageous bilateral cooperation in the Balkans.

Bulgaria attaches primary importance to bilateral relations and cooperation in the political, economic, techno-scientific and other spheres. Their development contributes to the mutual getting more familiar, to the getting closer together and to the understanding among the peoples of the Balkan countries, the Bulgarian representative underlined.

He expressed hope that the governments of the Balkan countries will show a political reason and vision so that peace and calm of the peoples of that region be consolidated.

Laying an emphasis on the fact that different Balkan countries belonging to different military-political alliances is not a hindrance, sooner it is a supplementary ground for doing away with the nuclear weapons in the Balkans, the Bulgarian diplomat stressed that it is necessary for the Balkan countries to make efforts for the signing of an agreement on mutual non-use of military force and on maintaining peaceful relations among the NATO and the Warsaw Treaty member-states. Resistance should be given to the danger of the involving of some Balkan states in armed conflicts -- a danger which is becoming ever more obvious in the light of the plans for extending NATO's scope of action, the Bulgarian representative said.

Ambassador R. Nikolov, said that the Balkan states could make a substantial contribution to the eliminating of all mass destruction weapons in the European region by working actively for the holding of a meeting of Warsaw and NATO states also attended by other parties concerned.

Romanian Group Makes Proposals

AU152023 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1930 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Athens AGERPRES 15/2/1984 -- On February 15 at the conference of Balkan countries' experts that examined questions related to the peaceful uses of nuclear power in the Balkans and the cooperation power [as received], the Romanian delegation pointed out that the development of the multilateral collaboration among the Balkan states had to include also the peaceful uses of nuclear power as one of the main components of the effort for the creation in the region of a zone of peace and good neighborliness, confidence and collaboration, free of nuclear weapons, of foreign military bases and troops. Emphasis was also placed on the need for all countries' unhampered access to the nuclear technological and scientific information, to the energy raw materials, as important sources of socio-economic progress in contemporary world.

Starting from the presented orientations and ideas, the Romanian delegation submitted to the meeting a string of specific proposals and suggestions for the development of the inter-Balkan cooperation in the power generation, conveyance and economical use.

In their addresses, the representatives of the other participating states also referred to the importance of the regional collaboration in the domains included in the agenda at that item, and there was unanimous appreciation of the ideas and conclusions drawn from the Bucharest meeting of multilateral Balkan cooperation in energy and energy-generating materials held in June 1982 at Romania's initiative.

CZECHOSLOVAK HISTORIAN ON ANTIMISSILE PROTEST

PM151500 Paris LE MONDE in French 12/13 Feb 84 p 7

[Article by Karel Bartosek, "Czechoslovak historian living in France": "Poisonous Mushrooms for the Government" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] Czechoslovak officialdom could not really "remain passive" in view of the threatening deployment of the American Pershing missiles. On 25 October the press thus published the statement that the Prague and Moscow governments "have decided to undertake preparatory work for the installation of bases for tactical missiles." The work is well underway, but the occupied people do not very much appreciate the occupier's protection. Many people are courageously saying so in public. The government does not really like that kind of pacifism.

The armament of the "socialist community" to which Czechoslovakia must contribute requires increasingly large funding. According to information dating from 1982, a new type of aircraft costs 20 times more than its obsolete predecessor and an ultramodern tank -- 19 times more. The cost of electronics is prohibitive, and the country finds little compensation in casting tons of sheet steel which represent the main contribution to the production of those tanks. Moreover this production has experienced dangerous problems working out the lack of cooperation with Poland. It seems as if a modernization of armaments -- a measure ordered by the Soviets every 6 or 7 years -- took place in Czechoslovakia in 1982 and 1983. The small countries' economic and political dependence on the USSR, which has a virtual monopoly on the manufacture and supply of modern weapons, is thus strengthened. That largely explains why Czechoslovakia's debt to the USSR has increased in recent years.

Moreover the propagandist government has committed itself fully to organizing the "citizens' consensus" to approve the deployment of the missiles.
From 26 to 28 October 1983 throughout Czechoslovakia the press asserted that "hundreds of thousands of citizens expressed their support for the agreement between the Czechoslovak and USSR Governments."

Less-official reports sound a different note: The population really is afraid of war. Showered with propaganda on the terrifying dangers posed by the missiles in the FRG, they fear the ravages they would cause in such a densely populated country as theirs. "This is the first time since 1969 that Czechoslovaks have felt so upset," people say in Prague. It is significant that people rush to buy nonperishable products to hoard, while the owners of second houses in regions close to Soviet bases are trying to sell at any price.

This "nuclear anxiety" is prompting another reaction which the country had not experienced since 1969: Many of those who have been docile and said nothing for years are starting to speak out. In many enterprises, universities, schools, and even in the civil service, people are asking"awkward questions." And this frequently happens at meetings called to vote to express "overwhelming approval" of the deployment of "Big Brother's" missiles. Many speakers courageously refused to back down, bringing a hurried end to the meeting, sometimes without the drafted "resolution of approval" being adopted.

According to reports from Bohemia mentioning specific names of enterprises, schools, or offices, tens of thousands of citizens have directly expressed their disagreement with the deployment of the Soviet missiles; their courage is sometimes even greater than that required by the signing of Charter 77. Indeed, they were forced to take their dangerous stance in public in front of their colleagues and bosses. In Brno, the second largest city in the country, a collection of signatures was begun in November on a short letter addressed to the president and the government protesting the deployment of nuclear weapons in Czechoslovakia. More than 1,000 people signed in a few days. Only massive police intervention prevented this "illegal" petition from assuming wider scope.

These reactions prompted the government to put a swift end to the public meetings to approve the "agreement." The premier even felt obliged to admit, in his speech to the congress of the Physical Culture Association, that "nobody feels pleasure" from the missile deployment. Those who expressed their disagreement have, at least so far, not been troubled, for fear of displays of solidarity.

For the first time since 21 August 1969 when, on the first anniversary of the occupation, the Czechs and Slovaks had demonstrated their opposition in the streets and when clashes had occurred in several cities, a large number of citizens have thus publicly and directly protested the occupier's will.

Will the new outburst, therefore, have more lasting consequences? For the time being it would seem so. The recent synod of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren did not express approval of the deployment of the missiles in Czechoslovakia but expressed opposition to missiles "anywhere in the world." Moreover it sent a letter expressing solidarity to Jan Litomisky, one of the brethren, who is serving a 3-year sentence for his religious and political activities. Despite repression and the forced emigration of many of its signatories, Charter 77 has entered the 8th year of its courageous fight with a new, more "radical" team of spokesmen.

The public rejection of the deployment of the Soviet nuclear arms considerably extends the basis for action of a movement of open opposition which is still rather small. Will it speak out on the essential problem of human rights under the occupation? Will it make new demands taking into consideration Czechoslovakia's destiny in liaison with that of Europe? Will as yet latent ideas, like the idea of neutrality which emerged after 21 August 1968, come out into the open?

Those who observe the "Eastern bloc countries" from abroad and who -- despite the Polish, Hungarian, or Czechoslovak revolts -- persist in believing they are rigid and static, ought to finally realize that they are not inhabited by millions of manipulated and permanently manipulable ants. The desire to live in freedom and dignity is more present there than the propagandist in power thinks.

TURKISH AIR TRANSPORTATION DELEGATION DEPARTS

AU142249 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The Turkish delegation on air transportation left our country today. Present at the departure of the delegation at Rinas Airport were Deputy Minister of Communications Llambi Leka, and functionaries of the Foreign Affairs Ministry and the Ministry of Communications. Also present were Selcuk Toker, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey to the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, and other functionaries of the embassy.

During its stay in our country the Turkish delegation visited work and production centers and cultural institutions in the districts of Tirana, Berat, and Vlore.

RAMIZ ALIA ORATION AT MYSLIM PEZA FUNERAL

AU092023 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Oration delivered by Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the Albanian People's Assembly at 9 February meeting in Tirana at funeral of Myslim Peza, Hero of the People, and former deputy chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly]

[Text] Comrades, we are being separated today from a distinguished son of the Albanian people, a heroic partisan commander, and a brilliant member of the AWP, from our dear Comrade Myslim Peza. The entire country is in mourning for Father Myslim. All the people, workers and peasants, intellectuals and soldiers, young and old are in sorrow over his death. Myslim Peza was born in [the village of] Peza, but was known throughout Albania, because he fought throughout all his life for the Albanian people. Father Myslim's life is that of a great patriot who devoted all his energies, from his earliest youth to the present, to the cause of Albania's freedom and independence, and to the country's progress and prosperity. His was the life of a Communist militant who fought resolutely for the construction of socialism. His was the life of a defender and competent executor of the party's line for the emancipation and elevation of the Albanian people.

Myslim Peza represents the simple man of the people. At all times and great historic moments, he bore and defended the freedom-loving spirit of the people, their intelligence and wisdom, their generosity and nobility, their courage and bravery. Because he was such a man, he became a truly popular leader, a distinguished leader of the peasant masses in struggle against the injustices and plundering of the beys and aghas, against Zogist oppression, against enslavement by the foreigners.

His road, the road of an honest patriot and resolute fighter for the freedom of the people, led Father Myslim to the Communists, to the great ideal of socialism. As a true son of the people from whom he emerged and whom he fought for, Myslim Peza felt in his heart that Albania could only be saved by communism, that only the Communist Party could lead the people in the struggle for spiritual and national liberation. That is why when he met Comrade Enver Hoxha for the first time, he unhesitatingly and unconditionally embraced the party's ideas. That is why he embraced the party's emancipatory line with open heart and total confidence. Father Myslim gave his pledge to the party only once, and he remained loyal to the party throughout his life and in all situations. One meeting with Comrade Enver sufficed for him to link himself for life with his dearest comrade, brother, and leader, at whose side he remained to the end, in good and bad times, in the struggle for liberation and the construction of the new Albania.

Myslim Peza placed everything at the party's disposal and struggled to organize partisan units, batallions, and brigades. As a heroic commander of the National Liberation Army, he himself became a member of the General Staff led by Comrade Enver Hoxha. Father Myslim's courage, valor, and selflessness have by now become a legend. To honor the memory of this legendary hero, the party has decided to erect a monument in historic Peza.

Myslim Peza's life and activity are closely linked with the establishment and consolidation of the people's regime. He fought to establish the national liberation councils during the war and supported wholeheartedly the measures and decisions adopted by the party after the war to establish the people's regime and to consolidate the new state organs which served the people. Father Myslim was elected as deputy in all the legislatures of the People's Assembly and, until recently, he served as deputy chairman of its Presidium.

Myslim Peza was characterized by his irreconcilable opposition to enemies, old and new, external and internal. A strong class feeling accompanied him throughout his life. He was gentle and close with the people, but stringent and merciless against the enemies of the party, country, and people. In our party's clashes with the factionalists, plotters, and foreign agents, Myslim Peza remained at all times with the party, at Comrade Enver's side.

Myslim Peza was a simple and wise man, like the people from whom he emerged, generous and noble. He never separated himself from the peasants, the partisans, from all those he had known and had worked with throughout his life. He rejoiced and was enthusiastic about the progress and prosperity of his beloved Peza, as he rejoiced about all Albania. In this direction he remains an example of a true person, of communist modesty, an example of a man who lives with the people, and who thinks and works for the people.

You are going away from us, dear Father. But be at rest. The cause for which you fought and worked, the cause of the freedom and happiness of the people is in sure hands. It is defeneded and furthered by our people themselves, who are in power. It is defended and furthered by our party led by Comrade Enver Hoxha, which has secured for the people their present happiness and is leading it wisely toward an even better future. You loved the people so much. The party for which your heart beat until the last moment, we, your comrades, whom you loved so much and who loved you so much, the present generation, and those to come, will keep your memory alive. They will protect Albania, the party, socialism like the apple of their eyes. This is your legacy, the legacy of the martyrs, and of all revolutionary fighters.

Farewell, beloved and dear Comrade Myslim Peza.

FOREIGN MINISTER MLADENOV ARRIVES IN FINLAND

AU151446 Sofia BTA in English 1432 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Helsinki, Feb 15 (BTA corr V. Bozhilov) -- Today Mr Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, arrived in Helsinki on an official visit, responding to an invitation by Mr Paavo Vayrynen, Finland's minister of foreign affairs.

At Helsinki's airport, replying to journalist questions on the conversion of the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear weapons, Mr Petur Mladenov said:

"I can understand the interest of the Finnish party regarding this matter, because you, the Finns, the Finnish Government, are the initiators of converting northern Europe into a nuclear weapon-free zone.

"We are considering the idea of turning the Balkans and northern Europe into nuclear-free zones as one of top-priority. We believe that this is the right way to turning the whole of Europe into a continent without nuclear weaponry. Our goal is that Europe and the whole world live without any nuclear weapon. This weapon should be removed and destroyed."

Mr Petur Mladenov made a high assessment of the development of the political, economic and cultural relations between Bulgaria and Finland. He emphasized that for the last few years our bilateral economic ties have been developing particularly favorably.

Bulgaria's minister of Foreign Affairs conveyed to the Finnish people congratulations and best wishes for peace and successful development on the part of Mr Todor Zhivkov, president of the State Council of Bulgaria.

There followed the formal talks between the two countries' foreign ministers.

Talks Continue, Dinner Given

AU152049 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Yordan Bozhinov, BTA correspondent in Helsinki, reports details on the talks between Petur Mladenov and Paavo Vayrynen, foreign ministers of Bulgaria and Finland. The two ministers have noted with satisfaction that the traditional political, economic, and cultural relations between the two countries are developing along an ascending line. Simultaneously, they pointed out additional opportunities for cooperation, and adopted measures on intensifying contacts in various areas. Petur Mladenov and Paavo Vayrynen expressed serious concern about the dangerous exacerbation of the international situation, something which truly threatens peace and security in Europe and increases many times the danger of a nuclear conflict. As especially alarming in this context they pointed out the deployment of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

The two ministers stressed that the arms race must stop and effective measures for disarmament on the basis of equality and equal security are to be adopted. Comrade Petur Mladenov recalled the socialist community's numerous constructive initiatives and proposals, whose implementation would contribute to solving the dangerous problems of our time.

The two ministers voiced support for creating nuclear-free zones in various European regions, and briefed each other on the initiatives to turn the Balkans and northern Europe into nuclear-free zones. They expressed their countries' readiness to make efforts for achieving these goals.

Other topical international issues, such as the situation in the Middle East, Central America, South Africa, and so forth, were also discussed.

Minister Petur Mladenov has invited Paavo Vayrynen, Finland's foreign minister, to pay an official visit to Bulgaria at a convenient time for him. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction.

The official dinner given by Paavo Vayrynen in honor of Petur Mladenov and his spouse took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Toasts were proposed.

R24 MILLION TRADE PROTOCOL WITH POLAND SIGNED

AU151930 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] On 15 February Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, received Zygmunt Lakomiec, Poland's minister of domestic trade and services.

Later, the Polish minister and Georgi Karamanev, minister of production and trade with mass consumer goods and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, signed a protocol on trade exchange and scientific-technical cooperation between the two ministries for 1984. The protocol envisages that the trade exchange reach R24 million, R2 million more than in 1983. An agreement on economic and scientific-technical cooperation for the period until 1990 was also signed. It envisages that the trade exchange between the two ministries reach R60 million in 1990.

CPSU UNDER CHERNENKO TO CONTINUE ON 'CHOSEN PATH'

AU161134 Bratislava VECERNIK in Slovak 14 Feb 84 p 2

["AR"-signed commentary in the "Word of the Day" column: "Firmly on the Chosen Path"]

[Text] The speeches delivered at yesterday's extraordinary CPSU Central Committee session confirm that the party which, with Yuriy Andropov's demise, has suffered a heavy loss, is firmly continuing on the chosen path, the path of communist construction and peace.

In his speech, Konstantin Chernenko, the new CPSU Central Committee general secretary, stressed that the CPSU will continue to follow the well-proven Leninist principles and methods. At the same time he emphasized the significance of the timely perception of and support for the people's initiative in the broadest sense of the word, as the highest and inexhaustible reserve of progress in the land of the soviets. It is truly necessary to handle economic affairs in a new way. That is why such attention is being currently devoted to the preparation of the next 5-year plan. The new 5-year plan must be the beginning of deep qualitative changes in production -- it must be a 5-year plan signaling a resolute turn in the intensification of all national economy branches. The very reflections on the necessity of such a course in the coming period clearly show that the Soviet Union, its Communist Party, and all its people continue to want to follow the well-proven path of peace set by Vladimir Ilich Lenin. That is why the attention devoted in this context to preserving peace is so understandable. At the same time the main task of the present is to prevent a further dangerous development toward a nuclear catastrophe, a development that has been strikingly manifested in international relations as a result of the adventurist hegemonist and militarist policy of imperialism with the United States at the head. That is why K. Chernenko again recalled the numerous peace initiatives submitted by the land of the soviets, initiatives that are a concrete expression of the country's peace effort and of its responsibility toward the peoples of the world. That is why the USSR cannot -- not in any circumatances whatsoever -- concede a change in the correlation of forces in favor of imperialism, as President Ronald Reagan is striving to achieve through his arms program. The USSR will appropriately reply to any such attempt, but it is not interested in acquiring military supremacy or in dictating its will to others.

The words spoken at the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee session at the moment of deep sorrow, felt by all Soviet people and the progressive public over the demise of Yuriy Andropov, have thus shown again that mankind has a realistic possibility to prevent a nuclear apocalypse -- a possibility that it must make full use of. In this respect the Soviet Union will do all that is within its potential.

STATEMENT ON DFLP DELEGATION'S VISIT 6-10 FEB

AU140938 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 11 Feb 84 p 2

[CTK report: "Full Support for Progressive Forces of the Palestinian People"]

[Text] Prague, 10 Feb -- A joint statement was issued at the conclusion of the visit of a delegation of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] to the CSSR, which took place at the invitation of the Central Committee of the CSSR National Front.

In their talks, the two sides discussed the current problems of developments in the Middle East and the tasks that have arisen in connection with the need to face up to the continuing American-Israeli aggressive and expansionist policy. The two sides stressed that it is essential in the present stage to preserve the unity of the PLO on the basis of its patriotic program and resolutions of the Palestinian National Council, especially those adopted at the 16th session of the Palestinian National Council in Algiers in February 1983. These resolutions confirmed the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine to return to their homes, to self-determination, and to setting up an independent Palestinian state. They once again firmly established the position of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the staunch resolve to continue to resist the Camp David and Reagan plans. The resolutions adopted at that session also welcomed the conclusions of the Arab summit meeting in Fes, Soviet initiatives, and the Prague declaration of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee, which contained the appeal to hold under UN auspices a broad-based international conference to be attended on equal footing by all interested parties, including the PLO and the USSR, as a suitable forum for dealing with the Palestinian national issue.

The DFLP expressed the determination to further cement the PLO's bonds of alliance with all segments of the Arab national liberation struggle, especially with Syria, on the basis of the joint struggle against the plans of American imperialism to subject the Middle East to its hegemony and against Israeli expansionism. The DFLP delegation stressed its interest in strengthening the PLO's bonds of alliance with all progressive, democratic, and peace-loving forces in the world led by the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community. The DFLP delegation expressed the profound respect the Arab people of Palestine hold for the CSSR because of its principled position and its support for the struggle of the people of Palestine and for Palestinian national unity within the framework of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

The Czechoslovak side expressed full solidarity with and support for the progressive, democratic, and patriotic forces of the people of Palestine and the Arab countries in their struggle against international imperialism and Zionism, for a just settlement of the situation in the Middle East, and for the right to self-determination and an independent Palestinian state.

COMPARISON OF HUSAK CONGRATULATIONS TO CHERNENKO

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 14 February carries on page 1 the 430-word congratulatory telegram sent by Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, to Konstantin Chernenko on the latter's election as CPSU Central Committee general secretary. This has been compared with the Prague Domestic Service version published in the 14 February Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT, page D 1, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph three, line one reads in RUDE PRAVO: We highly praise the fact that our fraternal communist parties....(changing "you" to "our")

Penultimate paragraph, lines four to six read in RUDE PRAVO: averting the war threat, for permanent peace, and for international detente. We assure you that Czechoslovak Communists and all Czechoslovak people will continue to follow in firm unity the path alongside the CPSU and the Soviet Union in the struggle....(rephrasing and adding and changing words)

STATE COUNCIL HONORS ANDROPOV; FUNERAL COVERAGE

State Council Session

LD131817 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1212 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] Berlin, 13 Feb (ADN) -- The GDR State Council, at the start of its meeting on Monday, paid tribute to the memory of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, the late general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Chaired by Dr Manfred Gerlach, its deputy chairman, the State Council adopted further decisions in accordance with the electoral law on preparing for and holding the elections in kreis, municipal, and borough assemblies and in local councils on 6 May 1984. At the proposal of the National Council of the National Front, it formed the GDR Electoral Commission, which includes figures from all sectors of social life.

Egon Krenz, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, was elected Electoral Commission chairman; Joachim Herrmann, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, was elected its deputy chairman; and Dr Hans-Joachim Semler, head of the Department of State and Legal Affairs under the GDR State Council, was appointed Electoral Commission secretary.

The State Council also laid down framework provisions regarding the number of deputies in the assemblies to be elected and decided to hold the elections of directors, judges and lay judges for the kreis courts and members of the arbitration commissions in 1984.

The State Council also dealt with the report by a working group that, under the leadership of Deputy State Council Chairman Horst Sindermann, Politburo member of the SED Central Committee, studied the further experiences of local assemblies in the development of Socialist local government policy in the bezirke of Cottbus, Dresden, Leipzig and Neubrandenburg. The report illustrates the diverse possibilities and initiatives by means of which local reserves can be utilized to bring about a high performance increase in industry and agriculture and to improve working and living conditions. In the accounts rendered prior to the coming local elections, the assemblies, their organs, and deputies can show convincing results.

Later in the meeting, the State Council dealt with the reports by State Council Secretary Heinz Eichler; by Supreme Court President Dr Henrich Toeplitz; and by GDR Prosecutor-General Dr Josef Streit, on processing citizens' petitions within their spheres of responsibiliity.

After a thorough discussion the reports were approved.

On the basis of the legal constitution law, the State Council adopted a decision on the formation of a kreis court in the town of Halle. Accordingly, one kreis court will be formed from the previous three borough courts effective 1 March 1984. This will be responsible for the entire town. In this way, better use is to be made of the local conditions in Halle to make the court's work more effective.

Finally, the State Council secretary reported on the pleas for clemency which had been directed to the State Council in 1983 and on how they are being handled.

Press Coverage of Funeral

LD151431 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0200 GMT 15 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Berlin, 15 Feb (ADN) -- Today's GDR papers report with text and pictures over several pages on the funeral service and interment of Yuriy Andropov in Moscow. "Farewell to Yuriy Andropov," "Burial in Red Square," "Soviet People and Mourning Guests From All Over the World Form the Cortege" are NEUES DEUTSCHLAND's front-page headlines. On its first page, the paper also reports Erich Honecker's condolences to Konstantin Chernenko ("Erich Honecker Expresses Our Republic's Deep Sympathy") and on the meeting of delegation leaders of socialist states ("Cordial Discussion Between Konstantin Chernenko and Representatives of the Warsaw Pact States").

Reports on the funeral are headlined in NEUES DEUTSCHLAND with "The Last Journey of the Outstanding Party and State Leader" and "His Work Remains Alive Among the People." The paper publishes the speeches delivered in Red Square. Reporting the state mourning in the GDR, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND stresses that at meetings and in expressions of sympathy at the Soviet Embassy, fraternal solidarity between the GDR and Soviet people was reiterated.

The papers report in detail on the talks Erich Honecker and Konstantin Chernenko and other members of Soviet party and state leadership had Tuesday with leading politicians of the world.

NAUMANN ADDRESSES BERLIN DELEGATES CONFERENCE

AU151013 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 13 Feb 84 pp 5-8

["From" the report of the Berlin Bezirk SED leadership delivered by Konrad Naumann, SED Central Committee Politburo member and first secretary of the Berlin Bezirk SED leadership, at the 25th Berlin Bezirk delegates conference in the Palace of the Republic on 11 February]

[Excerpt] Comrades, Washington's militaristic course, which is threatening mankind and which is unreservedly supported by the leading circles of the FRG Government, has now -- as we know -- led to probably the most dangerous period of postwar development. It is only natural that people are concerned with the questions of preserving and securing peace.

We will never get used to the NATO missiles deployed in Western Europe!

We call on the United States and the NATO states supporting it in their peace-endangering policy, in particular the FRG Government, to return to the situation prior to the deployment and to dismantle as quickly as possible the missiles that have already been deployed. (applause) We express our solidarity with the worldwide peace movement and our fraternal affinity with the just struggle of the peoples against the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism!

In this complicated situation the Soviet Union and all socialist states are undertaking the greatest efforts to safeguard peace and socialism and bring the world back onto the path of detente. Socialism is proving itself again as the strongest force of peace and is now drawing the necessary conclusions to preserve the military balance. The balance has preserved peace in Europe, and the GDR together with its allies cannot allow it to be destroyed. Only on this basis is it possible to check the aggressive forces and oppose fear of war and resignation with optimism, confidence, courage, and hope.

The communists have the obligation completely in the spirit of Lenin not only to efficiently unmask imperialism in order to show "the big secret that gives birth to war" but also and above all to dictate peace by pursuing "a reasonable and goal-oriented path in the struggle against war." (Footnote) (Lenin: "Works," Vol 33, p 433 and subsequent pages) This is the spirit of the renewed proposals of the socialist states at the Stockholm conference. They proceed from the fact that there is no reasonable alternative to the policy of peaceful coexistence. Today it is more urgent than ever to mobilize all forces to implement it.

The power of socialism is guaranteed by the good work of the working people who are making efficient achievements to strengthen the worker-peasant power in Berlin under the slogan "The Stronger Socialism, the More Secure Peace." This good work is of great importance in the international balance of power that is decisive for preserving peace.

The creative strength of the people is and will remain the pledge for fulfilling the general line of our party in the struggle for peace and socialism, and to guarantee the political stability, economic dynamism, and uninterrupted continuation of the unity of economic and social policy at any time. With this strength we implement the things for which our unforgettable Ernst Thaelmann, whose 100th birthday we will celebrate in 1986, lived and struggled, for which he and many of the best sons and daughters of our people were murdered by the enemies of the people, and for which millions of Soviet people gave their lives.

HOFFMANN, KRENZ ATTEND NVA-SED CONFERENCE

LD151807 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1300 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The delegate conference of the SED party organizations in the National People's Army (NVA) and the Border Troops of the GDR was opened this morning in Dresden. The participants cordially welcomed an SED Central Committee delegation including Politburo member Army General Heinz Hoffmann, minister of national defense, and Egon Krenz, Central Committee secretary.

The report by the Secretariat of the NVA Political Main Administration was given by its head, the deputy defense minister, Colonel General Heinz Kessler.

ANTIFASCIST MEETING HELD WITH FRG ASSOCIATION

AU150948 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 10 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] Berlin (ADN) -- An agreement on the development of future cooperation was concluded by delegations of the central leadership of the Committee of Antifascist Resistance Fighters of the GDR and the VVN [Association of Persecutees of the Nazi Regime] Association of Antifascists of West Berlin at a joint meeting in Berlin on Thursday. Otto Funke, chairman of the central leadership, and Heinz Schroeder, chairman of the VVN Association of Antifascists of West Berlin, declared the firm will of their organizations to strengthen the struggle for peace, detente, and disarmament, and against fascism and neofascism. Both organizations condemned the intensive armament and confrontation policy of the U.S. Administration and several NATO countries. They called for an immediate halt to the deployment of U.S. intermediate-range and cruise missiles in Western Europe and the dismantlement of the systems already deployed so that the situation existing before deployment can be restored and new negotiations made possible. The delegations reported on their work in the struggle against neofascist tendencies in several West European countries. Both organizations will continue their joint activities in this field.

MSZMP EXTENDS 'GOOD WISHES' TO CHERNENKO

LD152314 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The Hungarian Socialist Workers Party works in an unbroken manner so that the Hungarian-Soviet relations embracing all spheres of life might be further strengthened, the indissoluble friendship of the Hungarian and Soviet people further deepened. This was affirmed by the party's Politburo at its session today.

In a submission by Janos Kadar, the body heard and approved the report of the Hungarian party and state delegation that attended the Moscow funeral of Yuriy Andropov, the loyal son of the Soviet people, the outstanding personality of the international communist movement, the true friend of the Hungarian people.

The Politburo of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party welcomes the decision and positions of the 13 February 1984 session of the CPSU Central Committee. It highly values the firm determination of the CPSU Central Committee that in the future too it will consistently and resolutely continue its Leninist political line, which was designated by the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent resolutions of the Central Committee.

It expresses its sincere good wishes to Konstantin Chernenko, the new general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the outstanding leader of our fraternal party. It emphasizes its deep conviction that the fraternal Soviet people, rallying around the CPSU, under its leadership will attain further successes in the building of developed socialism, in the service of the universal cause of social progress and peace.

The Politburo repeatedly affirms: The Hungarian Socialist Workers Party works continuously so that Hungarian-Soviet relations embracing every sphere of life might be further strengthened and the indissoluble friendship of the Hungarian and Soviet people further deepened. Our party and government fully support the policy of the Soviet Union aimed at strengthening the socialist community, resolutely rejecting the imperialist endeavors threatening the socialist achievements of the peoples, national independence, and, at the same time, the resolution of the disputed international problems via negotiation, and the preservation of world peace.

The Hungarian People's Republic, together with the Soviet Union and the other member-states of the Warsaw Pact, is invariably ready to do everything possible to reduce international tension in the interest of achieving a military balance of forces and armaments at a lower level, to assert the policy of peaceful coexistence and detente.

FLAGS FLY AT HALF-MAST IN MEMORY OF ANDROPOV

LD151113 Budapest MTI in English 1032 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Budapest, February 15 (MTI) -- The national colours of the Hungarian People's Republic were lowered Wednesday amid military honours before parliament building in Budapest. Yesterday the flag flew at half-mast as a signal of mourning for Yuriy Andropov, this outstanding personality of the Soviet Union and the international workers movement.

NEPSZABADSAG PUBLISHES ANDROPOV OBITUARY

AU141420 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 11 Feb 84 p 3

["Yuriy Andropov (1914-1984)"]

[Text] It was with profound shock that we received the news that Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has died in his 70th year, after a prolonged illness. We mourn the loss of an outstanding combatant of the struggle waged for universal progress and the preservation of world peace, whose work was welded together from his early youth with the vast efforts made by the Soviet people for the prosperity of their fatherland, for socialism, and for a better and finer future of mankind. Yuriy Andropov was a highly experienced and internationally recognized and respected communist politician who, although he was at the head of the CPSU for only 15 months, fulfilled a historic role in the consistent and more rapid progress of the first socialist state of the world on the Leninist path. This is the path to the pursuit of which the Soviet Union owes its successes in building society, in the economy and internationally, and will continue to do so in the future as well. With his death, we also mourn the loss of a convinced internationalist who was a true and sincerely good friend of our people.

He was one of the Soviet communist leaders who began their careers as manual workers and acquired amid the building of a new society the practical and theoretical knowledge through which their talents of leadership were able to unfold. He was born on 15 June 1914, the offspring of a railroad worker family, at the Nagutskaya settlement in the border region of the present Stavropol. At the age of 16, he worked first at the South Osetian Autonomous Oblast and then became a Volga boatman. He was by then a member of the Communist Youth Federation. Higher educational studies followed, after which he became a KOMSOMOL coworker in 1936. The former boatman was entrusted with organizing and heading the youth organization of a technical school for shipping first and the youth organization of a shipyard later, in the Yarorslavl area. In 1938, he was elected first secretary of the Yaroslavl regional KOMSOMOL committee and, 2 years later, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Leninist Communist Youth Federation.

It was in recognition of his entire activity up to that time that he was accepted into the ranks of the party in 1939.

From the very first days of the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet people, he actively participated in the partisan movement of Karelia. When the city of Petrozavodsk was liberated from fascist occupation in 1944, he was elected second secretary of the city party committee and, in 1947, second secretary of the Karelian Communist Party Central Committee.

In 1951, the CPSU transferred him to the Central Committee apparatus. In 1953, 2 years later, the party assigned him to diplomatic work. In that year, he was counsellor of the Soviet Union's Embassy in Hungary and, from the summer of 1954 to 1957, he was the Soviet Union's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to our country. In that capacity, he had earned great esteem through his friendly activity for the good of our people and country and readiness to help. When his assignment ended, the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic decorated him with the first grade order of banner of the Hungarian People's Republic in recognition of his successful activity in deepening relations between the two countries. "In the course of your activity in Hungary," wrote the Hungarian foreign minister in a letter addressed to him in December 1957 on this occasion, "we have learned to know you as a true friend of our people who is well-disposed toward the fate of the Hungarian people and the cause of Hungarian-Soviet friendship."

Returning home from his diplomatic assignment, he was elected head of a CPSU Central Committee department in 1957. He was a Central Committee member from the 22d party congress. He was elected Central Committee secretary in 1962. Another important state assignment followed a few years later. In 1967, he was appointed chairman of the Committee of State Security operating alongside the Soviet Union's Council of Ministers and, in the same year, he was elected a candidate member of the CPSU Politburo.

He was a member of the Politburo from April 1973. In the summer of 1982, he relinquished his previous state assignment to be able to devote all his strength to the fulfillment of party tasks once more. He was elected secretary of the Central Committee in May 1982.

Yuriy Andropov was elected general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in November 1982, following the death of Leonid Brezhnev. On the recommendation of the Politburo, the Central Committee made this important decision unanimously. A few months later -- in June 1983 -- Yuriy Andropov, who had been a member of the Soviet legislature for a long time, was elected chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. Proposing him, Konstantin Chernenko, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: "The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and the Central Committee plenum proceed from the fact that... the purposeful, energetic, and initiatory activity exercised by Yuriy Andropov as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, his human traits, his experience, and his political wisdom have earned the general respect, trust, and sympathy of the party and the people. The Soviet Communists, all Soviet working people, and our friends abroad regard him as an outstanding Leninist-type leader. The further strengthening of unity between the party and the people, the continuity of our domestic and foreign policy, and measures supported by the people as a whole, which serve a further perfecting of the developed socialist society and the enhancement of our country's economic and defensive strength are inseparable from Yuriy Andropov's activity. The firm and consistent guideline of the Communist Party and Soviet state, which is aimed at improving the international atmosphere, attaining a return to detente, and averting a thermonuclear catastrophe, is inseparable from Yuriy Andropov's activity. Yuriy Andropov prestigiously represents this guideline in the international area."

His merits have been recognized through numerous decorations. In 1974, he won the title of Hero of Socialist Labor, The Lenin Order was bestowed on him four times, and he was decorated with the October Revolution Order of Merit and the Red Banner Labor Order of Merit three times. He possessed numerous other decorations as well.

No matter how great his personal prestige and the appreciation earned through his work were, the characterization given of him by the Politburo when he was nominated for the position of general secretary remained valid until the last moment of his life: "Party-minded modesty, respect for the opinion of the rest of the comrades, and insistence on collective work are essential features of Yuriy Andropov."

Of course, international attention was focused on the phase of his career when he was the top leader of the CPSU and the Soviet state. In 1 and 1/4 years, he performed an extremely intensive and multifaceted activity. In those months his every act constituted an important manifestation of the characteristics of the work of the Soviet party and state leadership in both a domestic and foreign political respect. They were continuity of the long-term guideline, prompt and active reaction to new phenomena and realities, and, on the basis of all this, bolder adaption of tasks to the requirements of the era.

The significance of this is all the greater because the Soviet Union is the greatest power of world socialism and, at the same time, one of the mightiest countries of the world.

Its international activity fundamentally affects the fate of peace, and its domestic constructive work is decisive from the viewpoint of the universal future of socialism. This is true not only because the Soviet Union's economic potential is also a guarantee for its defensive strength, but also because of something else, of which Comrade Andropov emphatically said: "Consistently boosting the economy and enhancing the people's welfare represent our duty to the Soviet people, but they are our internationalist duty as well. When the party approaches the issue in this way, it is led by the far-seeing Leninist guidance that through our economic policy we exercise the greatest impact on the world revolutionary process."

During the months in which he was elected general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, he spoke with emphasis at a Central Committee plenum about the continuity of Soviet foreign policy, the Soviet peace policy. He recalled that on the death of his predecessor, making numerous conjectures about the international policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Union was in vogue. In the past years, he added, many attempts have been made to attribute all kinds of bad intentions to the Soviet Union, make its policy appear to be aggressive, and allege that it threatens the security of one country or another. They are worrying now, however, that the Soviet Union's policy may change, because they regard a continuation of this policy as the cardinal guarantee for the preservation of peace and tranquility in international life. "I can declare with full responsibility," he added, "that the foreign policy of the Soviet Union was and remains as it was laid down by the resolutions of the CPSU's 24th, 25th, and 26th congresses. The unchanged goal of our foreign policy is to ensure lasting peace and protect the peoples' right to independence and social progress. In the struggle to realize these objectives, the party and state leadership will act in a principled manner, consistently, and prudently. In our opinion, the difficulties and tensions characteristic of the current international situation can and, indeed, must be overcome. If it does not want to risk its future, mankind cannot reconcile itself forever to the arms race and war. The CPSU is against the duel of ideals becoming a confrontation between countries and peoples and against turning the weapons at the disposal of social systems and willingness to use them into the criterion of their strength."

He returned to this thought -- one of the guiding pillars of the CPSU's international activity -- on several occasions later as well, even at moments when, with the imminent deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe, warnings of the consequences, necessary countermeasures, became emphatic in Soviet pronouncements. For instance, he pointed out at the June Central Committee session that the balance of power in the world had greatly changed in the past quarter of a century, the struggle between the two great social systems had become unprecedentedly acute. "Resolving their historical dispute through war would mean the destruction of mankind as a whole today. Therefore, the character assumed by the development of relations between the two social systems, that is, the question of preserving peace will for a foreseeable time remain a central issue of the CPSU's foreign policy."

He professed with conviction that the future belongs to socialism. He disavowed the exporting of the revolution, which is impossible in any case, stressing that, in the final analysis, socialism will prove its superiority in peaceful competition with capitalism. We -- he added -- do not favor military rivalry at all, which is forced upon us by imperialism. However -- he continued this train of thought -- the military-strategic equilibrium between socialism and imperialism objectively fosters peaceful coexistence, the emergence of this equilibrium being one of the most important achievements of recent years. Its achievement required great efforts and sacrifices by the Soviet Union and the rest of the countries belonging to the socialist community, and therefore they will not let this equilibrium be upset.

In practical politics, we were able to observe for months, almost day after day, the realization of the principles expounded by him on behalf of the Soviet party leadership, beginning from the issuance of the new highly significant proposals in December 1982 to smooth the path of the Geneva Soviet-U.S. talks. Unfortunately, U.S. policy, which strove to obtain unilateral advantages and upset the military balance of power that developed, overturned the negotiating process through the initiation of the missile deployment in Western Europe with a blackmailing design almost a year later. However, even in his memorable September statement, in which Yuriy Andropov warned of the political and military consequences of the missile deployment, he noted that the Soviet Union was not in favor of trials of strength. "The Soviet people can rest assured that the defense capability of the Soviet Union is of a standard that we would not advise anyone to subject to a trial of strength," he said. "We, for our part, do not seek such a trial of strength. Even the idea is alien to us. We do not separate the well-being of our people and the security of the Soviet state from the well-being and security of other peoples and other countries, nor do we counterpose the two. In our nuclear century, the world must not be seen on the basis of narrow and selfish interests. Responsible state leaders have only one choice: They must do everything possible to avert a nuclear catastrophe. Any other standpoint is short-sighted and, moreover, suicidal."

In one of his last statements at the end of January, following the beginning of the U.S. missile deployment, while he resolutely renounced the attempt of the Washington leadership to politicize with the Soviet Union from a position of strength, threats, and pressure, he adopted at the same time a position in favor of a genuine and substantive dialogue. He stressed: "We are prepared to take advantage of every realistic possibility for a continuation of talks to enable us to come to terms on limiting and reducing nuclear weapons on the basis of the principles of equality and equal security."

Like its international policy, the domestic policy of the Soviet party and state leadership was characterized by homogeneity of word and deed in the months when Yuriy Andropov was the general secretary of the Central Committee and chairman of the organ of collective state leadership. As early as the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee session, formulations were made which set a direction for the way to make it possible to advance more efficiently on the path designated by the 26th party congress for building society and the economy. Prerequisites -- economic and organizational -- must be created to encourage good quality and productive work, initiative, and enterprise. And, conversely, most directly and inevitably, poor work, idleness, and irresponsibility must have an effect on the working people's material remuneration, office, and moral prestige alike.

Greater importance was given simultaneously to the improvement of economic management, work discipline, and cadre work, and at the same time to the development of socialist democracy, about which Yuriy Andropov said at that very plenary meeting: "As Lenin stressed, the more comprehensive our plans and our production targets are, the more people will be needed -- millions must be brought into independent participation in carrying out tasks. And this means that socialist democracy must be further developed in the widest sense, that is, an increasingly active participation of the working masses in the management of public affairs." This must be accomplished by stressing substance and not form, avoiding bureaucracy as well as cliches that hamstring initiative, by declaring war on intellectual laziness in all areas of social-economic construction and by encouraging renewal based on realistic analysis.

When -- in December of last year -- his illness so soon prevented him from personally taking part in the work of the Central Committee session, he spoke about economic policy tasks and stressed that:

"We can really evaluate any result achieved in the development of production only when it has a direct influence on the increase of the people's welfare." Besides, he arrived at rather important conclusions on economic policy and other decisions in his article published last year in the journal KOMMUNIST. On the one hand, he urged thoughtful preparation of measures so that, if a decision is already made one should not stop midway in carrying it out, but, in accordance with the party's Leninist tradition, "all that has been decided upon must be carried out. This is our party's Leninist tradition and we cannot give it up." On the other hand, however, he warned that "the efficiency of the socialist people's economy must not, of course, be evaluated only on the basis of economic criteria. Social criteria must also be taken into consideration -- in view of the final goal of social production, which in socialism, is, according to Marx's definition, to ensure the welfare of the working people and to create conditions for the multilateral development of the personality."

In Yuriy Andropov's spiritual and political heritage, an important role is played by the analytical method with which he approached the great issues of theory from the direction of practice and facts. In his essay, "Karl Marx's Teachings and Some Questions of Socialist Construction in the Soviet Union," he says, among other things, "the Soviet party and people face huge tasks in the final decades of the 20th century. These can be summed up as perfecting developed socialism. The way this process progresses is the way the transition to communism is carried out. Our country today is at the beginning of this long historic period, and this period will, of course, have its stages and development levels. How long it will last and what concrete forms of realization it will have, only experience and practice will show. Nowadays, he who, in raising the question 'what is socialism?' turns for an answer first to the works of Marx, Engels, and Lenin is doing the right thing. This in itself, however, is not enough. The essence of socialism cannot be understood without taking into consideration the rich experience of the people of the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries." Later, at the June session of the Central Committee, he added to the above thoughts that the last decades have further enriched the conceptions connected to the world socialist system, and they have shown more expressively how changeable and complex this world system is. There are considerable differences -- he stressed -- among the socialist countries in the sphere of economy and culture, in the methods and ways of solving the tasks of socialist development. This is clear, even if once it seemed that the development would be more uniform. "It is particularly important -- he added -- that the existing differences not hinder the development of cooperation. To assure this is a sacred duty of the Communists, of the ruling Communist Parties. After all, we, the builders of the new society, have much more in common than we have differences that separate us."

This principled internationalist approach characterized Comrade Andropov in his relation to the socialist countries, Hungary among them. This relation was always permeated by the desire for strengthening the socialist community, closer cooperation, and thus the desire to serve more efficiently the universal interests of socialism and peace.

Last summer, when our party-government delegation visited the Soviet Union, Janos Kadar, first secretary of our party's Central Committee, noted that the Hungarian people rejoice over every success attained by the Soviet people in building a socialist society and said: "Now that the socialist social system has become a world system encompassing several continents, all socialist countries make contributions enriching the theory and practice of socialist construction. At the same time, the particular significance of the rich experience accrued by Lenin's party, the CPSU, in the struggle for socialism and the building of an advanced socialist society has always been evident for us, Hungarian communists."

He added: "Relations between the Hungarian People's Republic and the Soviet Union and between the MSZMP and CPSU are based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and internationalism. Our fundamental interests and objectives are common ones and our relations are developing in the spirit of mutual respect and trust and friendship between our peoples. There is a complete identity of views with regard to fundamental aspects of socialist construction between our parties. There are differances of dimension between our countries, and our endowments differ in many respects, but we are advancing in the same direction."

We are saying farewell now, with the profound mourning of friends advancing in the same direction, to Comrade Yuriy Andropov, whose death is not only a sore loss for the Soviet people, who are working on the accomplishment of great tasks and have lost, in his person, a leading figure of extraordinary stature, but also is a grave loss also for the socialist community, including our country and everybody struggling for peace and socialism throughout the world.

Yuriy Andropov's devoted work over several decades is inherent in the results of the first socialist country of the world, and this guarantees that progressive mankind as a whole will preserve his memory.

CEMA SECRETARY VISITS, HOLDS TALKS 6-10 FEB

AU140823 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 11 Feb 84 p 5

[Text] At the invitation of Jozsef Marjai, deputy prime minister, Vyacheslav Sychev, CEMA secretary, paid a visit to Budapest from 6 to 10 February 1984. During their talks, they exchanged views on the current issues of further development of CEMA activity and on the Secretariat's tasks in connection with this work. They evaluated the possibilities for deepening the economic and scientific-technical cooperation in the framework of socialist economic integration.

During his visit, Vyacheslav Sychev acquainted himself with the Hungarian people's economy situation, especially the operation of the economy and issues of developing industry, energy management, and agriculture.

The CEMA secretary met with Lajos Faluvegi, deputy prime minister and chairman of the State Planning Commission; Laszlo Kapolyi; minister of industry; Peter Veress, minister of foreign trade; and Lenard Pal, general secretary of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

He paid a visit to the Lang Machine Factory, the national electricity relay center, and the Energy Management Institute. He also visited the Szolnok County MSZMP Committee and the Zagyvarekas Peace Agricultural Cooperative.

Vyacheslav Sychev left Budapest on 10 February 1984.

INDUSTRY MINISTER HOLDS COOPERATION TALKS IN USSR

For Soviet reportage on the visit by L. Kapolyi, minister of industry, to the USSR and his talks with L.V. Smirnov and B.Ye. Shcherbina, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, and others on 9 and 10 February, see the Eastern Europe section of the 15 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

NOWE DROGI REVIEWS REASONS FOR ANTI-SOVIET MOODS

AU141600 Warsaw NOWE DROGI in Polish Nov/Dec 83 pp 206-213

[Stanislaw Hlodzik article: "Against Anti-Soviet Propaganda"]

[Text] Ever since the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution and as Soviet power and the socialist economy have continued to consolidate and gain in strength, the capitalist world has been intensifying activities aimed at kindling and fanning anti-Soviet moods and even hatred against the state whose existence and efforts to implement within itself the socialist social and economic doctrine and the principles of coexistence of nations are directed against the stability of the traditional social relations that have ruled the world and satisfied the interests of great capital.

Since the establishment of the socialist community countries after World War II, and especially with the beginning of the "cold war," the anti-Soviet campaign has gathered strength and acquired new elements. A propaganda wave of slanders, distortions, and false information has been launched not only against the USSR, but also against the socialist community countries. At the same time propaganda activities have been intensified in order to foster among the nations of that community feelings of mistrust and disbelief vis-a-vis the USSR, the most important member of the socialist community.

Under the conditions of the existence of two opposing political systems, it is natural that the ideological adversary -- which possesses enormous material resources and large cadres of experts in publicity and propaganda -- is continuing to intensify the propaganda campaign. However, it would be naive to fail to fully appreciate the potential impact of that propaganda on the Polish people's awareness. The effects of such indifference became obvious, especially among young people, during the crisis that developed after August 1980.

It was no accident that the post-August movement of the workers class, which sought to repair the distortions of socialism, was turned with relative ease into primitive anti-Sovietism by the Social Self-Defense Committee and by the Confederation for an Independent Poland. There were too many acts of profanation of soldiers' graves by juveniles, whose relations and perhaps even parents had been saved from annihilation by the Soviet Army. The theories that it might be possible to make Poland into a "Finland" and that it was necessary to preserve certain socialist solutions for "geopolitical" reasons appealed too easily to people. It was precisely the young people in the other CEMA countries who demonstrated a large degree of resistance to the slogans hostile to socialism.

Our country was, however, under the influence of a layer of specific historical traditions and the dearth of exhaustive and convincingly presented information about the postwar socioeconomic development of the community countries, especially the USSR. That neighboring countries cultivate prejudices is a rather common phenomenon. At times it is difficult to eliminate it, especially insofar as representatives of an older generation are concerned, because they are more prone to view the past with emotion. Actually, it should be the young generation that critically reevaluates the views of their parents, because most young people do not believe in slogans and half-truths, no matter who proclaims them. Young people do not believe in eternal enemies. Their judgments are determined by the facts they possess at a given time.

The Polish people have not always been told with honesty and in full about the USSR's socioeconomic development. Besides, respect for our neighbor's difficult road could develop only side by side with a profound knowledge of the results achieved by this neighbor. The dearth of facts, the silence in response to the tendentious and distorted information supplied by Western radio stations on the Soviet economy, and the unfair Western comparisons of the Soviet living standards with those of the countries that have been highly developed for the past 100 years have made harmful inroads into the Polish people's awareness. Just as perfidious have been Western broadcasts in which efforts have been made to identify even the name of prerevolutionary Russia with the Soviet Union and with Soviet power, which, as everyone knows, is a negation of tsarism. It is unfortunate that such broadcasts have been pooh-poohed by the educators of Polish youth. The absence of active counterarguments in response to shallow Western propaganda has made it possible for primitive nationalism to take root, however. It is also unfortunate that the cases of a one-sided interpretation of history have not been infrequent. There have been various moments in Poland's relations with its Eastern neighbor. The annexation followed centuries of Polish pressure toward the East. This pressure took place even at a time when Slavic nations continued to fight for their lives against the Tartar onslaught. Let us remember that the pupils in Soviet schools also learn about these facts of history.

During the annexation uncritical views were germinated in Poland and were handed down from generation to generation, but at the time the Polish people's anti-Russian moods had deep foundations. The traditions of the 19th century events made a considerable impact on the development of the Polish people's definite sympathies. Whereas at that time the Bulgarians conceived a profound affection for the Russian people because of their part in freeing Bulgaria from the Turkish yoke, the Polish people placed all their hopes on the fortunes of France. The emperor of the French promised to rebuild the Polish state. At Napoleon's death the so-called Polish Kingdom had to be created within the borders of Russia. The myths about the affection shown by the West to Poles were magnified by the fact that people in the United States expressed praise for Tadeusz Kosciuszko and Kazimierz Pulaski, the heroes of the liberation war. For the Polish revolutionary intelligentsia the West was a symbol of progress. Whereas it was not until 1864 that peasants became enfranchized in Russian Poland, the United States was long a symbol of freedom and a continent in which a pauper from Poland was able to acquire a very large plot of land.

Western Europe, too, was for Poles a symbol of prosperity. Poles emigrated to earn money in French, Belgian, and German coal mines. For the inhabitants of the territory annexed by Austria -- for the inhabitants of poor Galicia -- Vienna was a symbol of high civilization and riches. At the same time, specific relations continued to develop between Russian Poland and the Russian empire. These relations were similar to the present situation in the Basque country where a national minority which inhabits a region that is better developed than the rest of Spain was not so long ago deprived of national rights. The part of Poland -- so-called Congress Poland -- that was annexed by Russia was an industrial region compared to the rest of Russia, even though it was backward compared to Germany. This meant that the metropolis, which exercised political power and imposed its own models, was a backward country in relation to the subject people. Whereas West European metropolises were respected by the enslaved peoples for their civilization and organizational skills, tsarist Russia was unable to inspire the Poles with such respect. Aversion to the occupier went hand in hand with a feeling of superiority insofar as civilization was concerned. This explains why the knowledge of the Russian language literally disappeared within a few years after Poland had regained independence, whereas knowledge of the German language in Hungary or Czechoslovakia, especially among the intellectuals, and, for example, knowledge of the English language in India, survived for much longer.

Poland, which regained its independence in 1918 and whose territory included the relatively developed regions of the former Russian annexation, was, compared to Russia, a country of considerable economic standards. In 1913 the Prussian part of Poland produced per capita 1.3 metric tons of energy-producing materials, a large part of which was used to meet the needs of the Germany of the time. However, the Russia of the time produced only 0.3 metric tons per capita and exported a large part of this production. This illustrated the economic gap not only between prerevolutionary Russia and Western Europe, but also between Russia and the Poland of the time. The Polish bourgeoisie took advantage of this relation of economic potentials to induce feelings of contempt for the young Soviet Union.

In this way the different histories of the Polish and Bulgarian peoples have developed historically different attitudes toward the Russian people. The Poles' feelings of admiration for the rich West have also been cultivated by a factor that Polish journalism has paid little attention to -- the impact of Polish emigration on the people's social awareness. Whereas the ties of national community have been maintained in Bulgaria with countrymen in Turkey, Greece, and Yugoslavia, which has helped increase the pride over national achievements, the relatively large Polish emigration found its home in the most developed capitalist countries -- the United States, Canada, Great Britain, France, Belgium, and Germany. The Poles who remained in the West for political reasons after World War II are an especially militant segment of the emigration. As opponents of communism who could still be needed, they have been able to profit from material privileges. Their frequent contacts with relatives in Poland and the blackmarket value of the dollar in relation to the zloty have added to the force of the myth about the economic possibilities Poland might enjoy through ties with the West. Although the Polish minority in the West is known for rather right-wing ideopolitical views, the fact is that our exaggerated courtesy toward our countrymen living aboad has made it impossible to tell our people why the Western governments treat the Polish emigrants with such great consideration.

Respect for the West has also been strengthened by the knowledge of the high-level technology and riches possessed by the industrialized countries. Following the October Revolution, affection for the Soviet peoples could arise in those segments of the Polish people who were attracted by socialist ideology. The USSR's economic standards in the twenties could never impress most of the Polish intelligentsia and bourgeoisie. After all, the USSR was to a great extent a country of illiterate peasants, and the peoples in central Asia lived at a lower level of civilization than the North African peoples under French rule. Even not so long ago the homemade tents in which people in the Soviet Asian republics lived were no sensation.

The USSR was afraid of the results of its economic weakness and realized the danger of intervention from the west, in the first place, from the Polish border. The USSR knew that Poland continued to build fortifications along its eastern borders only. Through the enormous efforts of the Soviet people, Soviet metallurgy, energy, engineering, and transportation were developed in the thirties. Of course, this had to be done at the cost of consumer industries -- the light, food, and housing industries. There was no other way.

Parents do their children a bad turn when they feed them with tales about the different standards of behavior of the Soviet soldiers during World War II. War surprised the Soviet people 20 years after the foreign intervention against Soviet Russia had ended. We now know how few changes a poor people are able to achieve over 20 years. After all, achieving technological culture is a matter of several generations. The forefathers of the present conquerors of space often did not have even a plow to their name. Their fathers knew how many machines worked, but their mentality did not change as fast as technology did.

It was not the personal culture and living standards of the Soviet people that impressed the world during the war. What impressed the world was that, envisaging the need to construct heavy industry, they were able to exploit its potential to repulse aggression. During the period of reconstruction, after the destruction caused by the war, and in the face of the threat that the "cold war" might turn into a hot one, the Soviet Union resumed its efforts of the thirties, seeking to strengthen those branches of industry that are the foundation of the development of the national economy and the country's defense.

Comparing the living standards and technologies of the two superpowers could not inspire those of our people who have not been conquered by socialist ideology with respect for the USSR's achievements. The development drive of the Soviet economy under the conditions when the Western world made great efforts to halt this drive could have inspired fascination -- only among young people. Admiration could have been elicited by the Soviet people's perseverance in eliminating century-old backwardness and in reducing the gap between their country and the West. In no case should we ignore or "rectify" the differences in living standards when making comparisons with the West. Stress should be placed on honestly reporting the slow but consistent reduction in the gap. Sympathy could have been inspired by the fact that no country with similar initial conditions has been able to achieve as much as the USSR in such a short time. In a sense such emotions are triggered in people who watch the struggle of and bestow increasing affection on those who are exceptionally ambitious and continue to climb the ladder of achievements, despite the difficulties made by an adversary who starts from a better position and is richer. The process by which the distance between the leading world countries diminishes takes time and is not noted unless the honest facts that can be verified are consistently thrown into relief.

A large segment of the Polish people continues to be without the necessary number of comparable facts relating not only to our own most recent economic history, but especially to the history of the USSR. That is why evaluations have been reduced to simple comparisons of the living standards of the citizens of the two superpowers. That segment of our people is unable to understand why educated Soviet citizens openly proclaim their praise and support for Soviet rule. Such a manifestation of patriotism continues to be regarded as a pose and to be looked at with jeering disbelief. In particular it is necessary to make known to the Polish young people the rationales which their Soviet counterparts take into consideration when evaluating the course of history. They have learned many details of the past not only in schools, but also from their own parents. Many Soviet citizens are heirs of a backward people, some of whom even led nomadic lives not so long ago. In Soviet central Asia the per capita consumption of electric power exceeds 3,000 kWh, which approximates the consumption level in Italy. The education of these Asiatic peoples is at about the level recorded in the West European countries. For example, an inhabitant of Uzbekistan knows that the monthly income of his family is above the annual income of a family in Pakistan or Iran, where nomadic life still continues. An Uzbek is proud that he is a member of the people who continue to conquer space. He is not aware of the fact that a citizen of the FRG earns far more than he does. He does not make comparisons between himself and the inhabitants in the West. He makes comparisons with someone who was like him some scores of years ago. He makes comparisons with the Afghan Uzbek, for example. He openly proclaims his pride in the achievements of his people and does not feel any grudge against the Russian people, although tsarism oppressed his people just as severely as it did the Polish people. But this Asian inhabitant realizes that without the help of the Russians he would not have achieved the present standard of development. What counts for the young generations is primarily their own experience.

In particular, the young Polish people should learn the entire truth about the passage of the Soviet peoples to the present position of the USSR in the world. The overwhelming majority of the farming regions of tsarist Russia was little different from the Asian countries, except that the Russian peasants were not nomads. Some 20 years ago the sons of those Russian peasants, who accounted for 82 percent of the population before the revolution, were already versed in technologies that had been beyond the imagination of their fathers. Although their living standards are clearly below Western living standards, the grandsons of the illiterate peasants belong to a generation that has conquered not only space, but also the perhaps more difficult technology of building railroads or pipelines across regions whose soil is eternally frozen.

Many myths about the problems that are supposed to agitate the public in the USSR have been firmly entrenched in the mentality of the Polish people. The lack of manifestations of discontent is in most cases explained away by the caution of the apparatus of repression, in which connection our people do not take into consideration the fact that in no country have repressive actions been able to prevent moods of indignation. Actually such actions have intensified such moods. A nation that was capable of staging three revolutions during the extremely repressive rule of tsarism would never give -- even if forced -- its support to a government if it did not approve of it. There is no doubt that the Soviet citizens continue to suffer from a housing shortage. The per capita housing indicator in the Soviet Union is below a comparatively high indicator in Czechoslovakia (22 square meters per person), in Hungary, and in the GDR, but the way in which the housing program is being implemented is responsible for the fact that the housing problem does not trigger negative emotions. Actually it does work for the state power apparatus. Over 80 percent of the housing area in towns and cities has been built since 1955. No other country in the world has produced such a phenomenon.

We must not view the housing problem in the USSR in terms that are typical for French or Czechoslovakia. In the USSR, which is a country of cultural differences, many families were transferred from primitive homemade tents into modern apartments. In the European part of the USSR the housing assets between the wars were modest because the development of industry was given priority. Moreover, the war destroyed a large part of those modest housing assets. Some 25 years ago a decisive majority of families lived in a single room and cooked in shared kitchens. In 1955 a great housing program began to be implemented. This implementation is still continuing without break. Cooperative housing construction did not enjoy any privileges in the relatively difficult situation. That is why its share in housing construction amounts to just 5 percent or thereabouts. At present a four-member Soviet family can expect to live in an apartment of some 56 square meters in the European part of the USSR. Compared to what a 35-year-old citizen remembers of his childhood, such an apartment represents an enormous leap. He also knows that if the present rate of housing construction continues, the housing conditions will not be worse in 15-20 years' time than the present conditions in Czechoslovakia or the GDR. This gap would have been much smaller but for the particularly destructive fascist aggression and the postwar arms race that has been imposed on the USSR and that is draining the country's resources. Comparisons between Soviet housing assets and Western housing assets are inappropriate. According to the 1931 census 74.5 percent of the apartments in London consisted of five or more rooms, which was a result of profits accumulated for centuries by Britain from its colonies. Major difficulties continue to assert themselves in the central Asian republics, in which a family consists of 5.6 persons on average (in the European part of the USSR this ratio is 3.3). In those republics the natural birthrate, which amounts to 3 percent, swallows up almost the entire number of new apartments. In the European part of the USSR only one-seventh of the new apartments are used to meet the needs of the increase in the population and six-sevenths are used to improve housing conditions. That is why only 10 square meters of housing are available for an inhabitant in the towns in the Asian republics, which lowers the overall national indicator.

In order to obtain the rate of improving housing conditions, such as exists in the Baltic republics, for example, it would have been necessary for the Asian republics to build more housing per 1,000 inhabitants than in any developed country. Nevertheless, 10 square meters per capita may be a lot for those who regarded their homemade tents as comfortable abodes some 30-40 years ago.

The evaluation of Soviet farming by Soviet citizens is something different from the evaluation of large sections of the Polish people, who think that the USSR should be able not only to feed its own people, but also at least half of Europe. The geography of the USSR shows that some 60 percent of its arable land is situated in the zone in which the average annual temperature amounts to 5 degrees centigrade, and that 40 percent of the cultivated lands are irrigated by rainfalls of not more than 400 mm a year, which means that the yields in these areas cannot exceed those obtained for many years by Australia under similar conditions, except that it is warmer there: 12 quintals per hectare in normal years and 9 quintals per hectare in dry years. The lands that receive rainfalls of 400-500 mm are just as large, but they are subjected to frequent droughts. Only 1.1 percent of the arable land can expect rainfall of over 700 mm. Only such a modest area of arable land can be compared with the conditions typical for U.S. farming.

That is why the USSR must grow wheat and barley, whereas in the United States the 350 million metric tons of harvested cereals (with soya beans) include 250 million metric tons of corn and soya beans. In the United States in 1979 the yields of corn amounted to 67 quintals per hectare and of wheat to 23 quintals. In the climatic conditions of the USSR the area for corn and soya beans, which are far more fertile than those for wheat, is almost 20 times smaller than in the United States. Although unusually fertile, the Ukrainian black soil suffers from dryness, and cereals need water most of all. Irrigation systems have been developed on a considerable scale: Every year some 1.2 million hectares are irrigated and improved, which is 20 times more than in Poland. However, the development of irrigation is being hampered by limited water resources, which means that most lands in the USSR are cultivated under conditions of considerable risk. In the United States or Western Europe such lands would not be used for farming because even a small shortage of rainfall would cause catastrophic results. This is a result of the geographic conditions and not of the inability of the system.

It would be useful to pay more attention to Poland's supposed lack of economic sovereignty. People believe such insinuations, but they are inconsistent with the fact that almost every socialist country has solved many basic problems in a different manner. The theory of diktat cannot be reconciled with the fact that Poland has solved its agricultural problem in an entirely different way, that it has made its economy dependent on Western loans and on Western technologies without ensuring that our products can be sold in the socialist countries, and that it has stood on the sidelines of the international production specialization within CEMA.

Our country has taken different, often erroneous, action with regard to many basic issues, and no neighbor of ours has intervened. However, the insinuations that our economy is in a subordinate position have not been demolished with sufficient energy and conviction, although they have wrought serious damage in the sphere of social consciousness. We will not win the respect of others if we do not combat myths and baseless views and if we do not liquidate prejudices vis-a-vis the USSR. Our two peoples will live side by side and will also need each other when the present young people grow older. We should reckon with the fact that the USSR, which has made such a considerable leap in development in the past 20 years, may in 15-20 years become a power whose close cooperation will be solicited by more nations. That is why the search for the truth about the USSR should be a pleasant task for young people and their organizations, as well as for young scientists, who find it easier to get rid of unjustified prejudices.

REPORT ON TRADE, ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH USSR

AU141513 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 11/12 Feb 84 p 1

[Summary] PAP -- Poland is the Soviet Union's third largest trade partner. Machinery and equipment comprise the largest group of products we export to the Soviet Union and industrial consumer goods are the second largest group. Fuels and raw materials are the largest group of commodities we import from the Soviet Union. In 1970 they accounted for 58 percent of all our imports from that country and in 1981 they accounted for 64 percent. Poland also helps meet the Soviet Union's raw materials needs and is able to place some 20 percent of its exports of raw materials in the Soviet market.

On 10 February several thousand metric tons of Soviet pig iron reached the Katowice metallurgical combine, which has also received over 1.2 million tons of Soviet iron ore as of the beginning of this year.

The Lenin Metallurgical Combine, which is the largest production enterprise in Poland, has recently experienced an acute shortage of roller bearings, which has caused standstills and has restricted production. On 10 January the combine received information that the Kuibyshev ball bearing plant had dispatched the spare parts needed by the Krakow combine. This means that one of the most worrisome production problems of the Lenin Metallurgical Combine is over and that the Soviet partner has once again proved that the combine can always count on its help, even though roller ball bearings are in short supply in the Soviet Union and many foundries continue to wait for them.

PPR-GDR TRADE MINISTERS SIGN 1984 PROTOCOL

AU151243 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 13 Feb 84 p 5

[PAP report: "Strengthening Cooperation With Socialist Countries"]

[Text] The delivery of goods between Poland and the GDR will exceed Z121 billion this year and will be 6.5 percent higher than in 1983. This was stated in the trade protocol that was signed in Warsaw on 11 February to fix the details of the proposed turnover between the countries.

It should be stressed that following the period of decline in the growth rate of our mutual deliveries at the beginning of the eighties, there has been a marked growth in trade and development of economic ties with the GDR since 1983. This is a definite expression of the fact that the decisions that were made in August 1983 by party-state delegations headed by Wojciech Jaruzelski and Erich Honecker on the intensification of economic cooperation between Poland and the GDR were implemented.

In 1984 we will buy the following from the GDR: machine tools, agricultural and textile machinery, machines for the food industry, passenger rail cars, scientific and measuring apparatus, medical appliances, construction industry machines, and also more machines for the printing industry than we did last year.

A large part of our imports from the GDR will be composed of market goods. In 1984 we will buy the following from our western neighbor: Wartburg and Trabant cars, 12,600 motorcycles and motorbikes, carpets, rugs, lace curtains, lingerie and hosiery, about 30,000 freezers and 13,000 washing machines, electrical household appliances, 15,000 stereophonic radios, pharmaceuticals, musical instruments, and toys.

Poland will, at the same time, be exporting the following to the GDR: machine tools, electrical engineering and metallurgical equipment, belt conveyors for brown coal strip mines, appliances for the sugar industry, air conditioning and dust extraction equipment, electrical engineering industry products, and agricultural aircraft.

Polish work forces will do construction and assembly work in the GDR and our shipyards will repair ships and barges belonging to our neighbor's shipowners. Deliveries of Polish solid fuels, sulfur, and carbon disulfide will be important to the GDR's national economy. We will also be selling the following to the GDR: vegetables, fruit and its by-products, and alcohol, while Poland's clothing and footwear industries also drew up a contract to process raw materials that will be delivered from the GDR.

The trade protocol was signed by the deputy ministers of foreign trade of both countries, Wladyslaw Gwiazda and Dietrich Lemke, in the presence of GDR Ambassador Horst Neubauer.

URBAN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE 15 FEBRUARY

LD152016 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] At the beginning of today's government press conference, Minister Jerzy Urban was asked to present the current state of talks on the normalization of diplomatic relations with the Vatican and was asked about the act on the functioning of the churches in our country. Here is an excerpt from his answer:

[Begin recording] The Polish Government has declared that it wants to develop relations with the Vatican and that the culmination of its development could be the establishment of full diplomatic relations. The talks with Archbishop Poggi concern the development of relations between Poland and the Vatican in general. This is a definite process, a process that we evaluate as taking a successful course; on the other hand, I cannot confirm that there are talks that already concern the specific details of the culmination of this process. Rather, it should be expected that we will be dealing here with a gradual process. At this moment, the discussions on the act on the functioning of the churches -- I use here a nonlegal but colloquial expression -- are at a very initial stage. They are at being examined by experts and it is difficult for the time being to say anything at all. [end recording]

The government spokesman next made a statement on the accusation that the act of encouraging sobriety is not being observed in our country. He was asked why the (Ponal) enterprise is not fully operational. As it turns out, this is caused by our difficult budget situation. The government is simply not in a position to buy up at once the entire assets of the institutions currently engaged in selling alcohol. The spokesman added, however, that the government does not intend to propose a change in the act, despite the various pressures in the trade and catering industry.

Further into the conference, an assessment of the effectiveness of press criticism in our country was requested.

[Begin recording] I believe that the situation in this respect does not look too good, but, on the other hand, it is not hopeless. There are grounds for guarded optimism, in any case. These are created by the press law, above all, and the executive regulations that are being prepared to support the press law. These include the government resolution on the functioning of the press administration that is already in force -- all this at any rate shows that the government intends to put great pressure on the administration to respond to interventions by the press.

While replies to critical articles of an intervening nature are relatively frequent, a greater problem lies in the fact that the organs of the administration rise very rarely to speak at press discussions or in discussions dealing not just with petty criticism, but rather on issues and problems raised by a publication or a number of publications. [end recording]

Subsequently it was asked whether the government is interested in the creation of a trade union center.

[Begin recording] The government is interested in progress in setting up all-Polish representation of the trade union movement as it is extraordinarily difficult, both with regard to the content and to the technicalities of the issue, to cooperate with scattered trade union representations, particularly in issues concerning not one industry but the labor sector as a whole.

On the other hand, the shaping of organizational forms of the trade union movement is not the government's business. The government will gladly welcome anything that the trade union movement produces.

[Unidentified speaker] What pay policy does the government intend to promote, in view of the constant inflation? [end recording]

This was another question to which the government spokesman replied.

[Begin recording] We will always be faced by the problem of whether to protect the poorest or whether to protect those who work best against the effects of inflation. The answer to this is that the government intends to protect the weakest who are not economically impoverished through their own fault, who cannot earn because they are still children, or who can no longer earn because they are very old, handicapped, or sick, and give priority to the economic interests of those who earn for the community, that is those who produce effective results, because support for them means also an effective anti-inflation policy. [end recording]

Finally, I would like to refer to the statement by Jerzy Urban when answering the question of whether he agreed that social benefits in our country are too high.

The impression of an immense increase of social benefits emerges from the fact that the zloty is losing its value and thus the nominal increases of benefits look imposing. Outlays for benefits in 1980 amounted to Z200 billion and in 1983 over Z780 billion.

I think that in our economic situation, voices saying that benefits should play a larger part in the national revenue to be shared out are not justified. On the other hand, the very structure of benefits calls for certain transformations. We want to care for the preproduction and postproduction populations as well as for those who for health reasons [words indistinct]

At the same time social policy should aim at the activation of the remaining groups, the rest of the social benefits, a vocational activation, as there is a short fall of manpower, because there is a shortfall of production, [as heard] and people rather excessively expect an improvement of their well-being as a result of issues not related to their activeness.

URBAN REMARKS ON GOVERNMENT-UNION COOPERATION

LD152342 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 2102 GMT 15 Feb 84

["Excerpt" from news conference with Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban; time and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent Janusz Sobieraj] Mr Minister, how do you assess the present relations between the trade unions and the state and economic administration?

[Urban] It is not easy for the state administration to act jointly in resolving the problems facing employees. This difficulty arises for two reasons. The first and main reason is the fact that the country is in an economically difficult situation, that we have experienced pressure on wage increases and on increasing time free from work, and on various social privileges. Today the trade unions do not have much opportunity to step up this kind of demands.

There are also difficulties in cooperation because both sides are only now in the process of getting in tune with one another and they are learning coexistence based on new principles. The new principles are different from those before 1980, but also different to 1980 and 1981 when Solidarity was transforming itself into a politically oppositionary force.

Above all, I must say that the pressure exerted by the trade union movement on the state administration, and primarily on the economic administration, constitutes a serious problem for the government. Relations between the entire trade union movement and the government are smoother; however, there are serious differences of opinions and clashes, as exemplified by the food price increases, and often these relations develop much more unsatisfactorily between the administration of an enterprise and trade unions operating there.

It is not easy to generalize here, as some 20,000 trade union branches operate and everyone of them has different relations with the administration, but there are most serious clashes. Often these clashes originate from the economic administration and the government is aware of this. Our objective is to seek a rational compromise on many issues and such a compromise is often applied.

I would like to refer here to the joint meeting of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and the Government Presidium devoted to these matters, and to quote the statement from the communique from that meeting: Decisive counteraction must be taken against disregard for the opinions of the trade unions or nonrespect for their statutory competences. This constitutes very unequivocal support on the part of not only the political element, in the shape of the Politburo, but also of the highest representation of the state administration, the members of the Government Presidium, for the trade unions.

An example of cooperation at the central level are the many issues on which the unions are consulted; in recent months there were consultations on changes in the wages system, on the increase in food prices and the compensation for its consequences for those with the lowest incomes; now consultations are in progress on changes in the principles of compensatory taxation [podatek wyrownawczy]. In addition, a variety of consultations are going on between the appropriate ministers and the appropriate trade unions, and furthermore, matters are proceeding following the meeting in the Baildon steelworks.

For the present year, consultations on the preliminary assumptions of the national plan for 1986-90 are scheduled, with special attention on pay policy and social policy, on the principles of the conclusion of collective agreements and works agreements, on the assumptions of the Central Annual Plan for 1985, on the improvement of organizational and legal arrangements leading to better use of working time, and the assumptions of housing policy and increased housing construction.

Thus, basically, all the key socioeconomic issues which this year figure on the government's agenda will be decided in cooperation with the unions.

STATE COUNCIL OFFICIAL ON ELECTORAL LAW

AU141610 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 10 Feb 84 pp 1, 5

[Interview given by Zdzislaw Tomal, deputy chairman of the Council of State, to Krzysztof Mikolajczyk: "The New Electoral Law"; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] The subsequent stage of the work being done on the draft of the electoral law for the people's councils was completed with the approval of the Sejm's Extraordinary Commission, and it will be the subject of a parliamentary debate next Monday 13 February, during which Sejm deputies will give the law its final format.

Tomal: I would initially like to recall the fact that the Council of State referred the planned assumptions on the draft of the electoral law to the people's councils for consultation after it had been approved by the PZPR, ZSL, and SD's Central Cooperation Commission and then by the signatories of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth [PRON], and so the document was well prepared. There were, admittedly, some opinions that a month was not long enough for a consultation, but as far as I remember, the consultation on the people's council and territorial self-government bodies took 6 months, and even that seemed too short. Despite these reservations, the consultation was exceptionally lively and genuine and was participated in by a throng of 1 million citizens. As a result of the consultation, the draft electoral law gained many new features, and the version that was sent to the Sejm is considerably different from the original that was used in the consultation.

Mikolajczyk: Does that mean that the draft assumptions were, in effect, rejected?

Tomal: It would be going too far to say that. Many parts of the assumptions on the draft electoral law received the people's full support, and first place would go to the system of consulting the candidates whom the political parties and social organizations nominate for councillors, as this was treated differently in the assumptions than it has been previously. The so-called calling for the opinion of the people was up till now used very rarely and to such a small degree that it practically lost its significance. In the draft assumptions the system of consulting the candidates was widely extended, giving the voters a chance of influencing the very system of the electoral list since their support is an indispensible condition for placing the candidate on the list. The institution of the electoral collectives that are appointed by the political parties and other PRON signatories was also given general support.

Mikolajczyk: In this case, which parts of the assumptions were the most controversial?

Tomal: I will mention four main points. First -- the structure of the list. I am concerned with whether the candidates will be featured on it according to the order in which tyey have been nominated, or in alphabetical order. Second -- the kind of electoral districts. What should they be like, and should they have one or many seats? Third -- the right or study to strike a candidate off the list. Four -- the elections' direct or indirect nature in relation to the voivodship people's councils.

Mikolajczyk: The consultations very frequently touched on the issue of crossing candidates off lists or secret elections, that is, the right or duty to take advantage of a room behind a screen to vote....

Tomal: The final version of the draft sets out the right to go behind a screen. However, this is connected with a wider problem, and that is the right or duty to take part in the elections. The participants of the legislative process took the stand that this is a civic right, or that a citizen can take advantage of it although he does not have to. This is why it was necessary to make consistant decisions in detailed resolutions. And so, the voter can but does not have to cross candidates off the list, and he can but does not have to go behind a screen. This is probably a logical solution if we take into account that no one will interfere with anyone else's voting either with or without a screen.

Mikolajczyk: The people's councils that will be elected this year will be implementing the law passed in July 1983 on the system of people's councils and the territorial self-governing bodies. Is, in your opinion, the electoral law in its present state favorable to the elections of the kind of councillors who will be capable of implementing the new law?

Tomal: It not only favors it but it also guarantees that such councillors will be elected, the kind who will fully guarantee they will perform their duties properly. I would compare the system of appointing candidates and the consultations to a fine sieve that eliminates the pretenders who would not be capable of standing up to the tasks that face the government. This method of appointing candidates, and then the elections should be an additional incentive for the councillor to work in the council, because he will on the one hand feel the burden of responsibility on his shoulders and at the same time will also have the satisfaction of having wide support for his candidacy from the local people throughout the entire electoral process. This support from the voters should somewhat strengthen the councillor's seat and at the same time oblige him to maintain close and frequent contacts with them, to explain and convince the voters about the activities of the people's council.

The situation I have outlined is a simple one and has its own ideal. However, the electoral law, together with the law on people's councils create the possibility of making precisely such a situation possible.

23 JUNE DEADLINE FOR HOLDING ELECTIONS

LD151752 Warsaw PAP in English 1420 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Poland's new electoral law passed by the Sejm last Monday, is the fruit of months of consultations in which all Polish parties, Christians' and lay Catholics associations, social and youth organisations, trade unions and individual citizens had submitted their opinions. The new law responds to the ongoing changes in this country, to the directions of the socialist renewal, and to the resolutions adopted by the 9th Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party and the 1st Congress of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth (PRON).

The present legislative term of people's councils expires on March 23 this year. Under Article No 11 of the new law, the Council of State should decree new elections and set their date not later than one month before the tenure expiry date, and the elections must be held within three months of the end of the previous legislative term. Hence the elections will have been held by June 23. In view of the principles of the new electoral law, a respective election resolution by the Council of State is a matter of days.

SZTANDAR MLODYCH ON ROLE OF YOUTHS IN GOVERNMENT

AU141540 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 10-12 Feb 84 p 3

[Daniel Wojtowicz article: "A Need for Creative Anxiety"]

[Excerpts] In the middle of February it will be 3 years since the new premier of the PPR Government, Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski, spoke to the nation for the first time.

The conrete and logical 10-point program which he then presented was designed to convince people and give them hope that the progressing degradation of our country would be halted. However, the government head made the success of his activities conditional upon one thing: a social calm that would be observed for at least 90 days. This was not an unreasonable request. Even so it was not fulfilled. Calm did not suit everyone. Serious tension and conflicts soon returned to our daily lives.

Although the first few months of the new government's work consisted of ways of stopping the dangerous development of events, quenching further cauldrons, and overcoming the incompetence and smugness (asekuranctwo) of state administrative bodies, the government's first program presented in the middle of February became the basis for its further activity.

Young people listened to government assurances with reluctance and did not believe in the appeals to preserve calm that were being repeated every few days. They regarded themselves as keen observers of the country's political life, whereas in reality they absorbed into their consciousness only what was offered to them by the propaganda of Solidarity and of its allied forces, just as most of society did.

The young generation permitted a negative attitude and even hatred toward the Polish authorities to build up inside it because of mistakes that had or had not been made, immune to the fact that the political adversary was preying on the young generation's good intentions and honesty in order to create a sharper and more dangerous contest. The real aims of the adversary were carefully concealed.

The powerful political and economic crisis not only came as a shcok to most of the young generation and was a cause of personal disappointment, but it also seriously undermined confidence in the country's authorities. Despite the fact that the premier had the authority of an Army uniform, he and the government could not count on surmounting all the barriers of no-confidence and disbelief from one day to the next.

For most young people, the only chance and real hope of a future was the new trade union Soldiarity; that is why people adhered to it unthinkingly and that is why they believed in its leadership til the very last, even when the most serious threat to Poland was already clearly visible.

And although a new political and economic strategy was born during the Ninth Extraordinary PZPR Congress as well as a new party attitude toward young people in accordance with real aims, this did not alter young people's attitudes. The subject matter of the congress did not get through to the young generation much, which was basically the fault of Soldiarity and of avid party opponents.

All the appeals and efforts of General W. Jaruzelski's government were interpreted either as sabotage against the fruits of August or as evidence of the authorities' weakness.

In the circumstances that are generally known, our country's situation became more dramatic and hatred rose. Martial law was declared in order to save Poland from a final catastrophe.

For some young people, martial law was not only a great shock but a personal setback, the second one in such a short time. Some young people retreated inside themselves, others concentrated exclusively on earning money, and others listened to the opposition and often paid for doing so with personal tragedy. Some young people understood the background behind and sense of such a difficult decision to introduce martial law. Remaining in the youth organizations and in the party, they decided to take part in the continuing battle for their future and that of Poland.

Under Army Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski's leadership, the government did not cease efforts to keep the promises made to the young gneeration both in the middle of February 1981 and during the Ninth Extraordinary PZPR Congress, despite the unfavorable social climate.

With the participation of youth organization representatives, the government adopted in June 1982 a program for improving young people's start in life and the principles of a housing construction program, plus modifications to housing policy. It is obvious that the programs on their own do not change anything, espec ailly when the country is in such serious difficulties. That is why a basic principle of the government's new policy was the creation of suitable conditions for young people to join in the struggle for their own affairs.

In July 1982, the now famous Ninth PZPR Central Committee Plenum on youth affairs took place.

The ninth plenum adopted a resolution that guaranteed young people the right to fight for their own interests, the right to take part in the exercising of state authority, and the support of the party in these activities.

At the same time the government adopted a series of organizational solutions designed to make it easier for young people to join in the life of the country and take care of their own affairs. The Youth Affairs Committee attached to the Office of the Council of Ministers and the Youth Affairs Office were formed. These bodies are seeing to it that the program of improving young people's professional start in life is implemented properly.

However, any improvement in the young generation's situation in life obviously depends on the whole country's situation, and this is still difficult.

Many party aktivists and officials at various levels strongly oppose any initiative from young people and their desire for change because they see in them a threat to their own positions. So many young people are still encountering an insurmountable wall across their paths and lose faith in the purpose of further action.

This is not a happy state of affairs, but it is real. Everyone who understands the functioning of the authorities knows that no resolution will alter the functioning unless the resolution is backed by people. That is why right now there is no other way out except the one where young people themselves will enforce the practical implementation of what has already been determined. Above all, the socialist youth unions and young party members must assume the burden of this struggle.

The party and government are not calling on young people themselves to establish calm and stability, but the country does need a creative anxiety on the part of the young generation and initiative from them. The young generation itself has no way out other than to treat these qualities seriously.

Elections to the people's councils will take place in Poland in the next few months. New state authorities will take shape. The greatest chance for the young generation lies in young people joining the authorities and assuming leadership of their cities, districts, and regions. One can no longer count on some "key" or indicator to guarantee places in people's councils for a particular number of young people. They must win the elections with the help of political activity. For reality is such that young people's absence among the authorities will practically demote their affairs to secondary importance.

MINISTER REPORTS 1983 MARITIME ECONOMY RESULTS

AU141817 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 11/12 Feb 84 p 5

[Report signed "(Wycz)": "What the Country Gets From the Sea"]

[Text] The results of the maritime economy in 1983 were the subject of comment at a press conference given by Jerzy Korzonek, minister of the Office for Maritime Economy.

The factual and financial results of the past year were more advantageous than in 1982, and the estimates given for the economy in the central annual plan were often considerably exceeded.

The fishing industry was recorded as having greatly exceeded the tasks contained in the central annual plan, which were mapped out to amount to 580,000 tons of fish, while fishermen caught as much as 712,500 tons. The deliveries of fish to the market could, thanks to this, be higher while the currency obtained from the export of fish was enough not only to maintain the fishing fleet on distant fishing grounds, but to purchase the most sought after types of fish such as herring, mackerel, and hake.

It should be stressed that these results were obtained despite the worsening situation in the merchant and fishing fleets, as last year the tonnage of the merchant fleet fell by about 15 percent and this process is continuing.

Assessing the results of the maritime economy for 1983, Jerzy Korzonek also discussed the weaker side of the activities of shipping and port-based enterprises. Our attention is drawn by the high 25 percent rise in the costs of maintaining the fleet abroad. This is partly justified by the fact that in carrying cargo between foreign ports our ships docked at these ports more often than they did, for example, in 1982.

Another field that needs clarification is the disproportion between the size of the cargo that is transported and the payments received for it. This phenomenon cannot solely be explained by the unfavorable economic situation on the world freight market. In order to maintain a favorable trend, it is essential that the frieght lines increase their efforts to obtain more profitable cargoes for our ships.

Seaports require particular concern. The accumulation of work for the ports at the end of 1983 was caused, to a great extent, by the considerable volume of goods that was sent from abroad to Poland in sacks and needed manual handling.

The 1984 Central Annual Plan, which partly concerns the maritime economy, has put forward the following goals: a maximal increase in the delivery of fish and fish products (taking into account the planned haul of 750,000 tons, the deliveries of fish to the market should be at least 230,000 tons), providing for the transportation needs of Polish foreign trade, and obtaining a further growth in foreign-currency payments.

CEAUSESCU CONGRATULATES CHERNENKO ON ELECTION

AU151835 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Telegram from Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general, to Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee]

[Text] On behalf of the RCP Central Committee and myself personally, I extend to you cordial congratulations and best wishes on your election to the high position of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. I express the conviction that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the RCP and the CPSU and between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the USSR will continue to develop, to the benefit and interest of our peoples and the general cause of socialism, cooperation, peace, and progress throughout the world. I wish you, dear Comrade Chernenko, much health, happiness, stamina, and success in fulfilling the highly responsible mission entrusted to you by the party. I also wish the Communists and all working people in the Soviet Union new and ever greater achievements in implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the programs for socioeconomic development, in the whole of socialist and communist construction in your fatherland, and in the struggle for detente, disarmament, peace, understanding, and cooperation between all peoples in the world.

Once again I extend to you warmest wishes for success together with our desire and determination to ensure, through joint efforts, the continuous strengthening and development of the comprehensive friendship and cooperation between our countries, parties, and peoples, concludes the telegram sent by Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general, to Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, on this election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

VICE PRESIDENT KOVACS BURIED IN CLUJ-NAPOCA

AU101757 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1743 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 10/2/1984 -- The funeral of Iosif Kovacs, member of the CC of the RCP, vice-president of the State Council of Romania, prorector of the University of Cluj-Napoca, took place in the town of Cluj-Napoca on Friday, February 10.

A floral wreath was laid before the bier on behalf of Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP, president of Romania. Floral wreaths were also laid on behalf of the CC of the RCP, the State Council, the Ministry of Education and Instruction, local party and state bodies, the University of Cluj-Napoca and other higher learning and research institutions.

On behalf of President Nicolae Ceausescu, Petru Enache, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, vice-president of the State Council, conveyed sincere condolences, as well as feelings of compassion to the bereaved family.

Executives of the Ministry of Education and Instruction, professors, historians and writers from Cluj-Napoca made homage-paying speeches showing that Iosif Kovacs had devoted his life to the loftiest ideals of the Romanian people, consistently militating for the implementation of the RCP's national policy of full equality of rights of all working people -- Romanians, Magyars, Germans and of other nationalities -- for the continuous strengthening of their brotherhood and solidarity in the joint work and struggle for the victory of socialism and the progress of the homeland. They also pointed out that Iosif Kovacs had creditably fulfilled his responsible tasks as vice-president of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM ANDROPOV FUNERAL

LD151636 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Feb (TANJUG) -- Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, Dragoslav Markovic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and Jon Srbovan, member of the Federal Executive Council, returned to Belgrade from Moscow today. The members of the Yugoslav delegation had attended the funeral of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

IRAQI FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

Ramadan Arrives, Talks Viewed

LD152054 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Dr Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister in the Government of the Republic of Iraq, arrived in Belgrade this morning for an official and friendly visit to Yugoslavia. He was invited by Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council, who, accompanied by her aides, also met him at Belgrade airport. Sonja Badel reports:

[Begin Badel recording] The forthcoming Yugoslav-Iraqi talks are the continuation of the dialogue between the two governments' representatives and are a part of the two countries' fruitful cooperation. Milka Planinc and Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister in the government of President Saddam Husayn, will review the state of bilateral relations and the possibilities for maintaining and promoting cooperation at the highest level.

Iraq is Yugoslavia's biggest trading partner among the developing countries; 17,000 of our workers are in that country, working on major projects. However, difficulties have emerged in the successful cooperation between the two countries owing to the consequences of the long Iraq-Iran war. Its price is not only heavy loss in life, but also the weakening of the two countries' economies. As a result, our commodity trade with Iraq dropped from $1 billion in 1982 to $800 million last year. During Milka Planinc's visit to Baghdad last year, agreement was reached on postponing the payment of the money due to us for capital projects in Iraq. However, since regrettably there is no prospect of ending the war in the near future, it now remains to be seen how cooperation can continue in the conditions of Iraq's war economy and to what extent the Yugoslav economy can continue to be engaged in economic cooperation with Iraq.

The Iraqi Government expects to increase exports of oil and improve the economic situation in the country by expanding the pipeline through Turkey and building the pipeline through Saudi Arabia and expects that it will thus improve prospects for continued cooperation with foreign partners.

Owing to our economy's great interest in the results of the major works in Iraq, the talks between Planinc and Ramadan and their aides are expected to lead to concrete acc accords on settling current problems and on future cooperation.

The Yugoslav-Iraqi talks at the highest level will also provide an opportunity for an exchange of views on international issues, above all on the Iraq-Iran war. The Yugoslav initiatives aimed at bringing this war to an end are well known, and on this occasion again the Yugoslav side will reiterate its view on the need to cease fire, withdraw the two countries' armies to their own territories and start peace talks on all the disputed issues.

During the exchange of views on the international situation, great attention is expected to be paid to the situation in the Middle East, in particular in Lebanon, as well as to questions concerning the Nonaligned Movement. [end recording]

Planinc-Ramadan Talks

LD152154 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1924 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Feb (TANJUG) -- The Yugoslav-Iraqi cooperation is continually developing on a friendly basis which represents the basic characteristic of relations between the two nonaligned countries. This was stated during tonight's meeting between Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council, and Dr Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister of Iraq.

At the beginning of the exchange of opinion, which was held in an atmosphere of full understanding, openness, and mutual respect, all aspects of bilateral cooperation were considered. On this occasion, it was mutually noted that the agreements arrived at during last year's visit by Milka Planinc to Baghdad are being successfully implemented. In the talks on bilateral cooperation, special emphasis was put on economic questions. It was stated that economic cooperation was successfully developing in spite of difficulties facing the two countries. Mutual readiness was expressed to go on strengthening economic relations.

As is known, the Mixed Committee for Economic Cooperation Between Yugoslavia and Iraq met in Belgrade. At today's Planinc-Ramadan meeting, the participatns were informed about the work of this committee, whose session is still under way.

During the talks between Milka Planinc and Yasin Ramadan, it was emphasized that a large number of Yugoslav workers and experts are now in Iraq making a considerable contribution to implementing this Arab country's development plans. The Iraqi side assessed the activity of Yugoslavs in this work as very useful and successful.

Readiness was also expressed during the talks to maintain and further develop this high level of economic cooperation. It was noted that last year overall mutual trade fell due to the financial difficulties facing Iraq. However, both sides will make efforts to resolve this matter in the most successful manner. The first months of this year already indicate that this decline will be checked and that increased trade can be expected.

The president of the Federal Executive Council informed the guests from Baghdad about the measures to achieve economic stabilization in Yugoslavia.

Further exchanges of opinion concerned the most topical questions of international life. After both sides expressed concern about the present tension in the world, the talks dealt with developments in the political situation in the Near and Middle East. On this occasion, both sides emphasized that Lebanon is exposed to tragic events, which is undoubtedly the consequence of the Israeli aggression and outside interference. Yugoslavia and Iraq strive for the normalization of the situation in Lebanon and for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from this country. Both sides expressed support for the efforts to preserve the independence, territorial integrity, and sovereignty of Lebanon. The hope was expressed that the talks between all interested parties in Lebanon would open the way for a return of peace in this country. In this connection, it was emphasized that it should be left to the Lebanese to find a way out of the present crisis.

It was also pointed out that overall peace in this region could only be achieved with a just solution of the Palestinian question, on the basis of respect for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and of the participation of the PLO in all talks with full rights. In this connection, both sides emphasized the importance of preserving the unity of the PLO.

The talks also included a discussion of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. The Yugoslav side again expressed great concern about this war which is causing great human suffering and great material destruction. Yugoslavia, it was emphasized during the talks, supports all initiatives leading to a peaceful solution of the conflict on the basis of well-known principles which respect the legitimate interests and rights of both warring sides.

The talks also dealt with the activities of the nonaligned countries since the seventh summit. In this connection, Iraq showed special interest in the actions which would lead to the solution of the present war situation in the Middle East. Tomorrow, the guest from Baghdad will be received in separate audiences by Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, and Branko Mamula, admiral of the fleet and federal secretary for national defense.

Dinner Toasts

LD160653 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2134 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Feb (TANJUG) -- Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council, arranged a dinner in honor of Dr Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister of Iraq.

"Your visit and our talks today have taken place in an open, friendly, and constructive atmosphere. This has already become a tradition in our mutual relations," said Milka Planinc in her toast. Bering this in mind, she added, our dialogue today was as natural because of the character and extent of our relations as it was necessary because of the breadth of our cooperation and the problems that burden present-day international relations.

"This has strengthened my conviction that in the future our two countries will continue to devote the necessary attention to nurturing good relations and realizing joint agreements that embody our two nations' mutual interests with the aim of achieving more rapid social and economic development in your country and ours and contributing to the realization of the principles and aims of the policy of nonalignment. I believe that readiness to do this is of the greatest importance today, when the world is facing perhaps the most complex crisis in overall relations in its more recent history.

"With great regret and concern we have to say that the threats to world peace are increasing in the region of the Near and Middle East and that in this particular area a direct war confrontation between the great powers could come about," emphasized Milka Planinc.

In her own words, "the most recent events in the Middle East indicate that the situation is deteriorating dangerously and that it is certainly the most dangerous crisis hotbed in the world, where the latest weapons and armed forces continue to be concentrated, factors from outside of the region continue to be present and to interfere, and terrorism continues its extremely worrying incresae. This all reduces the chances of achieving a broadly accepted international scheme for a just and comprehensive lasting solution to the Middle East crisis, which implies above all Israel's withdrawal from all Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied in 1967 and later and the realization by the Arab people of Palestine of their legitimate rights to self-determination and a state on their national soil."

Milka Planinc emphasized that in seeking this solution, we consider that the PLO's equitable participation, as the only independent legal representative of the Arab people of Palestine, is essential in all phases of the negotiations, which should lead to a solution of the Middle East problem on the bases accepted by the United States and the Nonaligned Movement.

Expressing concern about the latest development of the situation in Lebanon, which is imbued with great danger for peace both in the region and farther afield, she expressed her conviction "that all interested factors should make efforts to avoid further deterioration in the situation and create conditions for a continuation of the dialogue on national pacification, taking into consideration Lebanese society's specific features and the interests of all its structures, in order to preserve Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

"We follow with particular concern the continuing war between Iran and Iraq, two countries that are our friends, which is unfortunately already deeply in its 4th year," Milka Planinc declared. She emphasized that Yugoslavia, as a peace-loving and nonaligned country and a friend of both warring sides, is truly interested in a peaceful end to the war that would be acceptable to both sides.

Our favoring peace does not mean that we ignore the fact that problems and differences exist between the two sides. However, we support all initiatives and ideas that could lead to a peaceful solution of the conflict through negotiation, in keeping with both countries' legitimate rights and interests. Yugoslavia is working along these lines within the limits of its possibilities on the bilateral plane, as well as within the framework of international forums, especially the Nonaligned Movement, she said in conclusion.

Thanking Milka Planinc, Taha Yasin Ramadam said, among other things, that Iraq has always tried to abide by the principles of peaceful international cooperation in mutual relations, deeply understanding its obligations in the international community. He emphasized that the development of relations between the two countries in various fields has been exceptionally positive and recalled that the high level achieved in these relations is in keeping with the road that the two countires' leaderships laid down a long time ago. According to him, this road is reflected in the activities of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and the late President Tito in the service of the Nonaligned Movement and its noble and humane principles, as well as in the two countries' agreement-making and exchanges of views on the international situation and the Nonaligned Movement's role.

Outlining the known Iraqi stances on the Iraq-Iran conflict and on how the Gulf war started, Ramadan emphasized that Iraq strived to preserve its sovereignty and independence and called for maintaining the principles of mutual respect and coexistence and noninterference in the internal affairs of others. Because of this, he added, even before the war started on 4 September 1980, Iraq undertook a series of practical initiatives to solve the conflict by peaceful means, including obligatory arbitration.

Ramadan then recalled that Iraq "warmly responded to the good-will efforts to achieve a peaceful and just solution of this conflict, including the efforts of the nonaligned and the Security Council resolution, as well as the resolution adopted by the Islamic Conference last month."

Pointing out that the situation in the region is imbued with many dangers, Ramadan expressed the view that "it is up to the international community to accept responsibility" and expressed the political wish for "an active and urgent role to end the tense situation that prevails in our region."

We are quite sure that this visit and the talks we are having will represent a new step toward wider cooperation between two friendly nations and two friendly countries based on friendship, respect, and mutual benefit, he concluded.

MOJSOV ARRIVES IN AUSTRALIA ON OFFICIAL VISIT

LD151504 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0914 GMT 15 Feb 84

["Pool" item]

[Text] Melbourne, February 15 (TANJUG) -- Yugoslav Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lazar Mojsov arrived here this morning, Wednesday, on an official visit to Australia at the invitation of Foreign Affairs Minister William Hayden.

Mojsov was welcomed by representatives of the Australian Federal Government and high-ranking officials of the State of Victoria, whose capital is Melbourne. During the day, Lazar Mojsov will have a number of official meetings in Melbourne.

Tomorrow morning, Mojsov will leave for Canberra, where the main part of his working visit will begin. Besides talks with his host, Australian Foreign Minister Hayden, Mojsov will be received by Governor-General of Australia Ninian Stephen and Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke.

Mojsov will conclude his visit to Australia in Sydney, the continent's largest city, where he will meet with representatives of the New South Wales Government and Yugoslavs living in this most developed state of the Australian federation.

Talks in Melbourne

LD152355 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1916 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Melbourne, February 15 (TANJUG) -- Lazar Mojsov, Yugoslavia's federal secretary for foreign affairs, has started the working part of his visit to Australia with his talks with Jenkins, president of the Federal Parliament of Australia; Fordham, deputy premier of the State of Victoria; and Spayer, minister for ethnic affairs of the State of Victoria.

Mojsov arrived here today (Wednesday) for a four-day visit to Australia at the invitation of William Hayden, minister for foreign affairs of Australia. Also today, Mojsov visited THE AGE, Australia's most influential daily, here and gave an interview to its foreign editor.

Mojsov met with representatives of the organizations of Yugoslav emigrants at the Yugoslav Consulate this evening.

Mojsov is to leave here for Canberra tomorrow and start the main part of his working visit to Australia there.

VLAJKOVIC REPORTS VENEZUELA VISIT TO PRESIDENCY

LD151512 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1152 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Feb (TANJUG) -- At today's SFRY Presidency session, which was presided over by Vidoje Zarkovic, Radovan Vlajkovic, member of the SFRY Presidency, reported on his visit to Venezuela where he had attended the inauguration of the new president of the republic, Jaime Lusinchi.

The significance and results of this visit were assessed as beneficial for further promoting relations between the two countries, both in the sphere of bilateral cooperation and in their activity in international life. The significance of the numerous meetings and talks which Radovan Vlajkovic had with leading personalities in this region was also stressed. On these occasions our side expressed its support for the efforts of the Contadora group toward finding peaceful solutions to the problems of this part of the world.

Information on the forthcoming visit to our country by Renzo Renzi and Germano de Biagi, captains regent of the Republic of San Marino, was discussed and adopted. The session also discussed other issues within the constitutional competence of the SFRY Presidency.

ATTENDANCE AT 7 FEBRUARY LCY PRESIDIUM SESSION

AU151703 [Editorial Report] Belgrade Television Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1830 GMT on 7 February carries an 1-minute film clip on the session of the LCY Central Committee Presidium chaired by Dragoslav Markovic, which discussed analytical information from the Presidium's Commission for Information and Propaganda on the realization of the conclusions of the sixth LCY Central Committee session on current questions of public information and the tasks of the League of Communists. Several single and group shots and shots of sections of the doughnut-shaped table show that the following attended the session: Dragoslav Markovic, Nikola Stojanovic, Ali Sukrija, Ilijaz Kurtesi, Dusan Dragosavac, Jure Bilic, Hamdija Pozderaz, Dusan Ckrebic, Dobrivoje Vidic, Jovan Dejanovic, Petar Matic, Slavko Veselinov, Dimce Belovski, Kiro Hadzivasilev, Trpe Jakovlevski, Veljko Milatovic, Milan Kucan and three unidentified men. Several empty seats were noted on the film clip.

SERBIAN GOVERNMENT ADOPTS DEFENSE BILL 15 FEB

AU151631 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Serbian Assembly Executive Council adopted several bills and discussed several reports at its session today. Members of the council adopted the bill on all-people's defense of the SR of Serbia. The council noted that in accordance with the conclusions of the republican and provincial assemblies, the executive councils have achieved significant cooperation. The test of the law on all-people's defense that was proposed for unified implementation on the territory of the Republic has been improved. It has been agreed that the bill provide that the Presidency of the SR of Serbia adopt the republican defense plan. This plan includes questions that are of interest to the Republic as a whole. The Executive Council noted that the mode of adopting this plan has still not been coordinated. We may recall that Article 360 of the Serbian Constitution provides that this plan will be adopted by the Presidency of the SR of Serbia. After the discussion, the council concluded that the bill on all-people's defense will be sent to the provincial executive councils.

At its session today, the Executive Council also adopted the bill on expropriation.

NIN SPOOF ON SLOVENE-MONTENEGRIN DISAGREEMENTS

AU151356 Belgrade NIN in Serbo-Croatian No. 1727 5 Feb 84 pp 12-14

[Stevan Niksic article: "Elections to the SFRY Presidency: Eight Candidates"]

[Excerpts] The procedure of nominating members of the SFRY Presidency is a part of the SAWP's duties, and the election of the candidates is carried out at a joint session of the chambers of the assembly of each republic or province.

Considering that for the time being we are only talking about candidates whose election is to be decided upon by the delegates in the assemblies, it should be said that the possibility that any one of them may not be elected is only theoretical.

The Presidium of the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Slovenia initially announced that three possible candidates were registered in that Republic (France Popit, Stane Dolanc, and Janez Stanovnik) for three posts (member of the SFRY Presidency, president of the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia, and member of the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia) and it was not immediately determined ("it will depend on harmonization in the federation") who will ultimately be proposed for which post.

"Usually well-informed sources" were unofficially saying that Popit will most probably go to Belgrade to the SFRY Presidency, and that Stane Dolanc will return from Belgrade to Ljubljana to the post of president of the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia. This was reported by the Zagreb weekly DANAS in its latest issue without any reservations about the reliability of its information. At the same time, this magazine recalled the position adopted in the SAWP of Slovenia to the effect that "people who in the past influenced the adoption of decisions which caused economic harm to Yugoslavia should not be elected to the SFRY Presidency." Slovenia suggested that this also be adopted as one of the important criteria by other republics and provinces.

"DANAS has unofficially learned," the magazine's Belgrade correspondent reported, "that they had in mind Veselin Djuranovic, the official Montenegro candidate for member of the SFRY Presidency," They allegedly had him in mind because "Djuranovic was the president of the Federal Government in the period when our country borrowed most abroad, because of which we now have a lot of trouble."

In other words, manipulating information from "usually well-informed sources," which is always risky (as they should know at least from their own experience), our Zagreb colleagues have suggested a tale according to which Popit allegedly was initially a certain candidate on condition that Djuranovic would not be proposed. It follows that Popit, having seen Djuranovic's candidature, gave up this post in favor of somebody else....

It is difficult to say at this moment what the truth is in all this, for the entire process of "harmonization" and "consultations" within and between the republics and provinces regarding the future candidates was conducted behind closed doors. It is a fact that at a session of the LCY Central Committee last fall, Popit sharply criticized the former policy of borrowing abroad and that in this context he explicitly mentioned the name of Veselin Djuranovic, former president of the Federal Executive Council.

It is nevertheless not very likely that one could connect this with the present procedure of nominating memebers of the future SFRY Presidency in the way our Zagreb colleagues have done, particularly since this -- even if the story contains a single grain of truth -- would resemble an attempt to shift the responsibility for the failures of the entire earlier economic policy of the country onto the back of a single man, Veselin Djuranovic.

This would be senseless. Behind such a tale, there could be lurking the proposition at least implicitly, that Djuranovic was at fault, that everything else was perfect, and that is the end of it.

At the time when Djuranovic was president of the Federal Executive Council, debts did indeed increase tremendously in a very short time, but it is well known that at that time the lesser part of the debt was incurred by the state (about $8 billion), and the greater part by commercial banks and other economic subjects (about $11 billion), on which the Federal Executive Council and Djuranovic at that time could exert no significant influence. The political leaderships of the republics and provinces had much more potential and actual influence on these debtors and thus on their debts, then and now.

During Djuranovic's term of office, the Federal Executive Council prepared a program of how to get out of the crisis (and the debts), which was known under the name "Green Book." Unfortunately, it was not even able to publish it (obviously because some people did not agree with this program). Zvone Dragan (of the SR of Slovenia), vice president of the Federal Executive Council now (and then), recently said that he can still endorse the "Green Book," for it does not essentially differ from the Long-Term Program of Economic Stabilization prepared by the Kraigher commission.

BRIEFS

TRANSPORT COOPERATION WITH BULGARIA -- Sofia, 10 Feb (TANJUG) -- The first session of the Yugoslav-Bulgarian commission for transport ended in Sofia with the signing of the protocol on cooperation in transport. The session, which began 3 days ago, discussed current issues in the sphere of transport between the two countries, as well as the issue of transit transportation. The possibilities for promoting further and expanding long-term cooperation in this field were also discussed. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2020 GMT 10 Feb 84 LD]

CROATIAN INFORMATION SECRETARY -- Zagreb, 14 Feb (TANJUG) -- Sime Pilic, Croatian LC Central Committee member, has been appointed Croatian LC Central Committee Presidium executive secretary for ideological issues and information. [Summary] [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1132 GMT 14 Feb 84 LD]

POLITIKA EDITORIAL BOARD -- At a meeting on 31 January the editorial staff of POLITIKA elected the POLITIKA editorial board. Aleksandar Bakocevic, chief and responsible editor, and his deputy, Zika Minovic, will be joined on the board by assistants to the chief and the responsible editor: Branislav Jovanovic, for managing editorship; Rista Bajalski, for the foreign politics sector; Miroslav Stojanovic, for the internal politics sector; and Vladislav Mitrovic, for socioeconomic affairs. The others on the board will be Slobodan Lazarevic, Belgrade editor; Momcilo Tanelic, managing editor of the foreign politics columns; Ljiljana Zorkovic, sociopolitical organizations; Borko Gvozdenovic, local correspondents' editor; Milenko Maticki, supplements editor; Branka Otasevic, culture; and Velimir Ilic, sports editor. [Summary][Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 1 Feb 84 p 9 AU]

PRESS BANS IN BELGRADE -- From 1973 to 1983, the district court of Belgrade issued 10 orders banning the distribution of newspapers, books, and other publications. There was one ban in 1973, three in 1974, none for 4 years, one in 1979, one in 1980, none in 1981, two in 1982, and two in 1983. There was a provisional ban at the beginning of 1984 on the distribution of ZUMREPORTER Issue No 873, which is yet to be decided by the Supreme Court. [Summary] [Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 1 Feb 84 p 9 AU]